



CLASSIC COMICS

TM



**Re-Presenting
The Tides
of Time
the first
comic strip
adventure
of the Fifth
Doctor!**

**PLUS:
Shark
Bait**

**An
Adventure
of the First
Doctor**

**We go
Behind the
Frame with
the Seventh
Doctor**





CLASSIC

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BBC Enterprises have confirmed that plans are afoot for a special drama for release around the Thirtieth Anniversary in November.

After a press conference that BBC Enterprises held in London in May to announce to the nation's media that 1993 was *Doctor Who's* Thirtieth Anniversary a wave of interest was sparked which finally enabled BBC Enterprises to get the go-ahead to resurrect the world's longest-running science-fiction series.

BBC TV, with BBC1 now under the auspices of *Who*-friendly controller Alan Yentob, are also involved with the project, confirming that the programme, rather than just being a video release, will be transmitted at the end of November on BBC television (but probably not on Anniversary Day, 23rd November as this will be Budget Day).

Provisionally entitled *The Dark Dimension*, the story is a ninety-plus minute drama, made entirely on location and shot on 16mm film. All five surviving Doctors have been asked to appear, but unlike previous anniversary adventures, *The Three Doctors* (1972/3) and *The Five Doctors* (1983), it seems unlikely that a story will be contrived to bring the five incarnations together. Instead it seems the script will give each Doctor their own storylines, culminating in a grand finale.

The special is a co-production between the BBC TV Drama Department and BBC Enterprises, with BBC Enterprises Senior Producer Penny Mills co-producing the programme alongside a producer from BBC television.

The director for the special is Graeme Harper. Harper has worked on *Doctor Who* many times before, initially as a production manager and latterly as the director of

C C COMICS C

Eighties classics *The Caves of Androzani* and the recently repeated *Revelation of the Daleks*. The script has been written by long-time *Doctor Who* enthusiast Adrian Rigelsford, whose *Doctor Who – The Monsters* book was published by Virgin last year. Rigelsford who previously co-wrote David Banks' *Cybermen* book for Who Dares Publishing, says his story will “put the children in bed and have the adults hiding behind the sofa!”

Doctor Who Classic Comics understands that all the Doctors have shown an interest in the project, while other actors reportedly involved in the project include Nicholas Courtney and Sophie Aldred, reprising their rôles as the Brigadier and Ace respectively. No other companions are currently in the storyline, but some vintage villains are mooted to be rearing their ugly heads . . .

The 1994 *Doctor Who Yearbook* from Marvel UK will be out in August, but you could win one of **TEN** copies in this **FREE** competition. All you have to do is tell us whether this will be the second, third or fourth *Doctor Who Yearbook* that Marvel have published! Send your answers on a postcard or the back of a sealed envelope to: Annual Fun, Doctor Who Classic Comics, Marvel Comics, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2R 3DX. Entries should arrive no later than 9th September 1993.



THE TIDES OF TIME: Part One....4

Probably the most requested *Doctor Who* strip so far, *The Tides of Time* marked the entry of the Fifth Doctor into the strip canon. Written by Steve Parkhouse with art by Dave Gibbons, this version has been newly coloured by Paul Vyse. Originally presented in *Doctor Who Monthly* Issues 61 - 64.

PULL-OUT POSTER.....26

Leela of the Sevateem.

BEHIND THE FRAME.....38

For the last time, John Ainsworth casts his eye over the ever changing adventures of the Seventh Doctor in *Doctor Who Magazine* and *The Incredible Hulk Presents*.

SHARK BAIT.....43

The adventures of the First Doctor, John and Gillian as drawn by Bill Mevin continue. The TARDIS crew face crabs, sea-horses, squids and, of course, sharks.... Originally presented in *TV Comic* Issues 728 - 731.

CLASSIC QUOTES.....51

Our letters page - is your letter among them?

FREE PULL-OUT GIANT POSTER

Alister Pearson's stunning cover for this issue of *Doctor Who Classic Comics*, depicting *The Tides of Time*.

Apologies to Steve Whitaker, who coloured *The Neutron Knights* in *DWCC* Issue 9 but whose name was missed off the credits!

HALFWAY ACROSS THE UNIVERSE
(HALFWAY, THAT IS, FROM WHEREVER
YOU HAPPEN TO BE AT THIS TIME)
OCCURS THE VAST, BIO-MECHANICAL
COMPLEX KNOWN AS THE EVENT
SYNTHESIZER ...

SINCE THE DAWN OF TIME, THE
SYNTHESIZER HAS PRODUCED
THE ORDERED VIBRATIONS OF
THE COSMOS ...

CREATING EVENTS IN A LOGICAL,
HARMONIOUS SEQUENCE TO
FLOW INTO THE MAIN TIME-
STREAM ...

FROM THE NOTES AND
CHORDS STRUCK BY
ITS GUARDIAN OF OLD,
THE PRIME MOVER!

IN THE KEY
OF G-SHARP...

... A-SHARP ...
C ... G-SHARP ...
THAT'S NICE ...
REPEAT G-SHARP,
THEN D-SHARP ...

I THINK WE
HAVE A
THEME!

A LITTLE BIT
OF PHRASING
HERE ...

A FEW
TWIDDLY
BITS!

JANG!

UH?
GOOD
GRIEF!
NO!

THE PRIME MOVER EXPERIENCED
A WAVE OF FEAR AS HIS FINGERS
FUMBLING AT THE KEYBOARD!

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN
CENTURIES ... A NOTE OF
DISCORD WAS STRUCK!

THE TIDES OF TIME

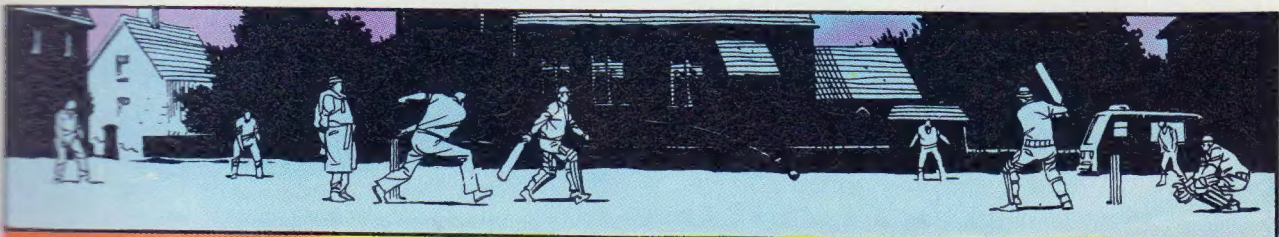
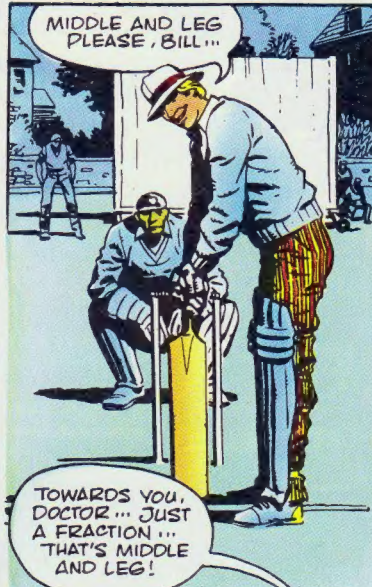
AT THAT PRECISE MOMENT,
HALF A UNIVERSE AWAY ON
THE GREEN MEADOWS OF
EARTH, ANOTHER VITAL
EVENT WAS TAKING PLACE...

YOU'RE IN, DOC
... DON'T FORGET
KEEP A STRAIGHT
BAT!

'OW
WAS 'E!!

OH, WELL
BOWLED!

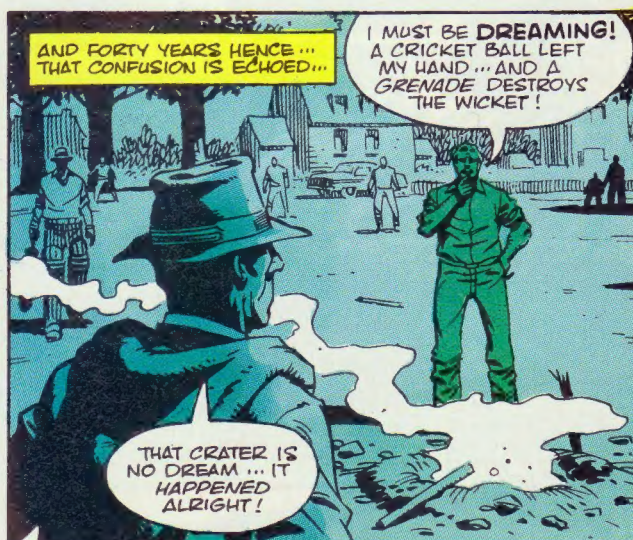
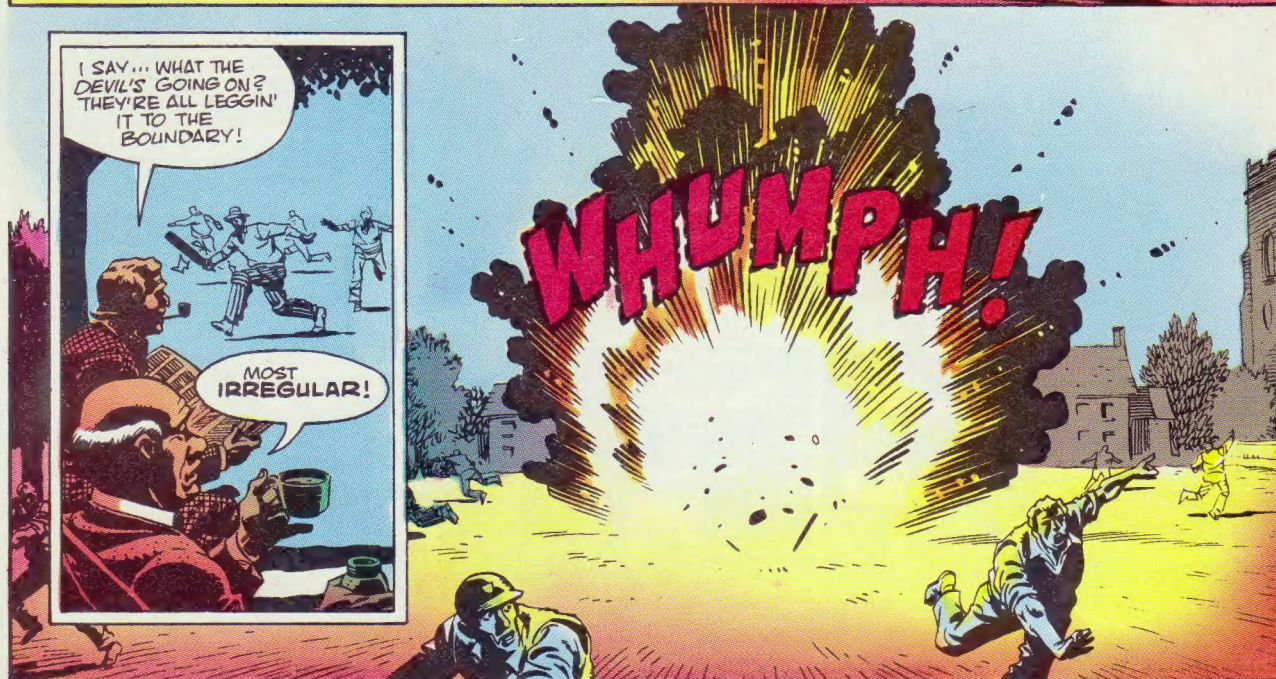
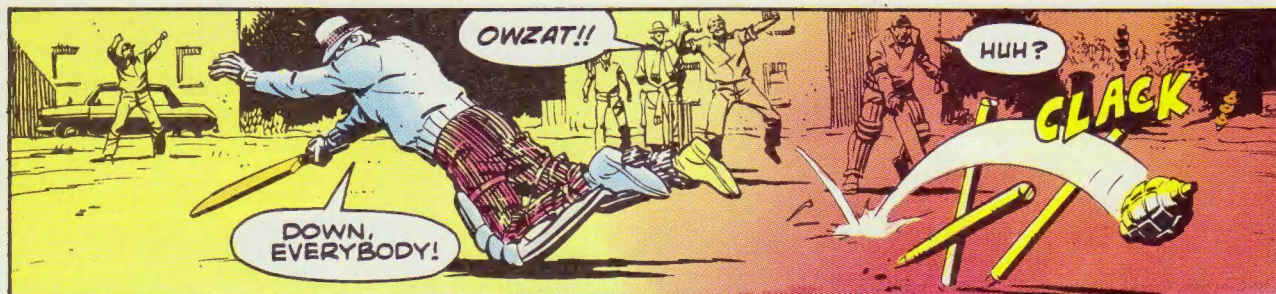
NICE ONE,
TOM!



THUMP!

OH,
LORD!!







THEY CAME FROM THE LANE BY WELLS WOOD!

WHAT ON EARTH IS GOING ON?



IT'S JACK! JACK PARTRIDGE! HAVE YOU BEEN LOOSIN' OFF, JACK?

AVE. I'AVE!



I WAS ON ME BIKE ... I JUST CAME ROUND THE CORNER AND THEY WERE STANDING THERE ... WHOLE GANG OF 'EM ...

TWO OF 'EM CAME AT ME WITH **SWORDS** ... I MANAGED TO GET ONE ... THE OTHER RUN OFF INTO THE WOODS ...

THEN THEY ... WELL ... **VANISHED!**



ALRIGHT, YOU LOT STAY HERE ... I'LL HAVE A SCOUT ROUND ...

WATCH YOUR STEP, JIM!

YES ... BE CAREFUL.

YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE UP AGAINST!



P.C. JIM MARSHALL VENTURED TENTATIVELY INTO THE COOL, DARK GLADE ...

THE COMFORTABLE, FAMILIAR ATMOSPHERE OF WELLS WOOD HAD CHANGED TO ONE OF **LURKING MENACE!**



WHO'S THERE?

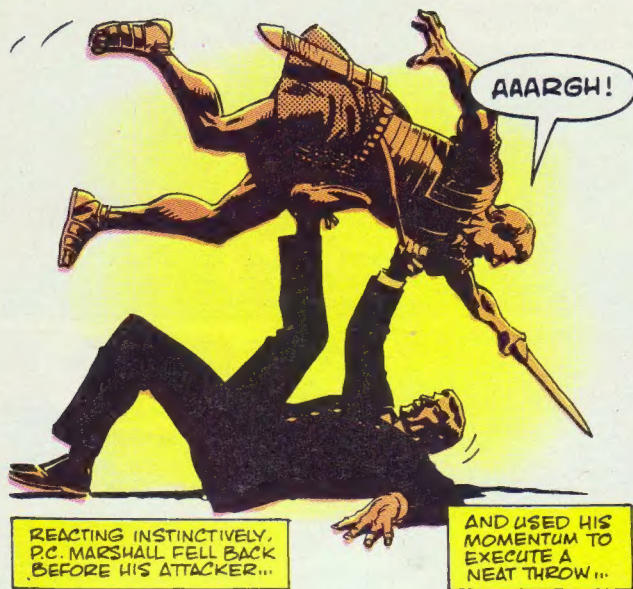
WHO'S THAT?

COME ON OUT!!



GOOD GRIEF!!

WITH A CRASH OF UNDERGROWTH, A STRANGELY-GARBED FIGURE LURCHED INTO THE LIGHT!





SOME PRANKSTER ON THE LOOSE WITH ANOTHER TARDIS? COULD BE...

THOUGH I DON'T SEE WHAT THEY COULD HOPE TO GAIN BY IT...



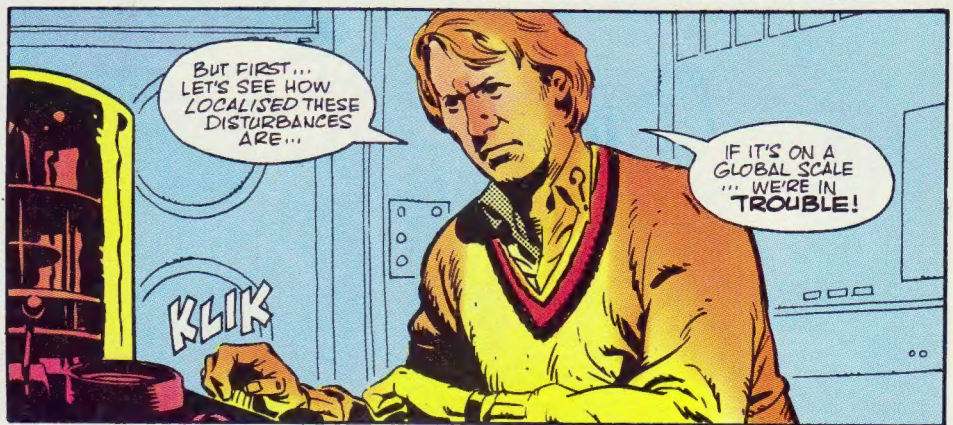
OF COURSE... IT COULD BE THE TARDIS ITSELF...

IT ALWAYS DID HAVE A MIND OF ITS OWN!



AND THAT MEANS A COMPLETE CHECK AND OVERHAUL...

DRAT IT! I WAS JUST BEGINNING TO ENJOY IT HERE!



BUT FIRST... LET'S SEE HOW LOCALISED THESE DISTURBANCES ARE...

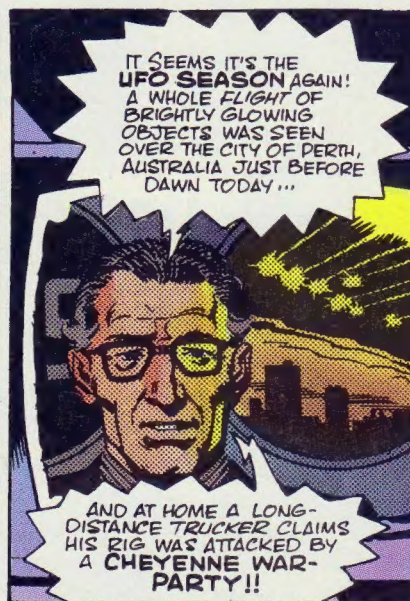
IF IT'S ON A GLOBAL SCALE... WE'RE IN TROUBLE!



THIS IS CHANNEL SIX BRINGING YOU THE NEWS... AS IT HAPPENS!

REPORTS ARE COMING IN CONCERNING SOME STRANGE HAPPENINGS BOTH AT HOME AND WORLDWIDE!

OH, NO!

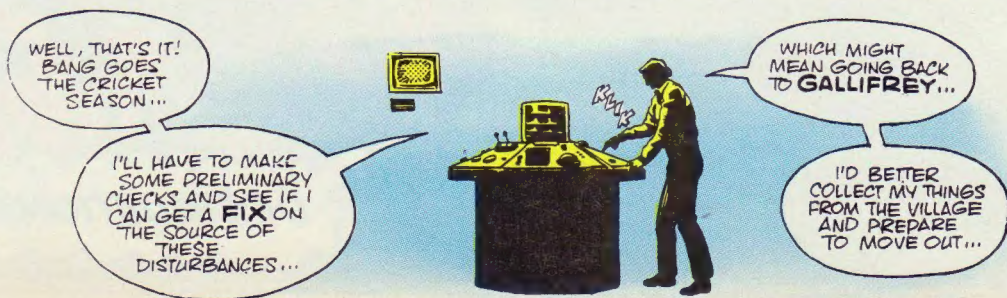


IT SEEMS IT'S THE UFO SEASON AGAIN! A WHOLE FLIGHT OF BRIGHTLY GLOWING OBJECTS WAS SEEN OVER THE CITY OF PERTH, AUSTRALIA JUST BEFORE DAWN TODAY...

AND AT HOME A LONG-DISTANCE TRUCKER CLAIMS HIS RIG WAS ATTACKED BY A CHEYENNE WAR-PARTY!!



STAY TUNED TO CHANNEL SIX FOR MORE DETAILS OF THESE STORIES... AND OTHERS... AFTER THIS SHORT BREAK!



WELL, THAT'S IT! BANG GOES THE CRICKET SEASON...

I'LL HAVE TO MAKE SOME PRELIMINARY CHECKS AND SEE IF I CAN GET A FIX ON THE SOURCE OF THESE DISTURBANCES...

WHICH MIGHT MEAN GOING BACK TO GALLIFREY...

I'D BETTER COLLECT MY THINGS FROM THE VILLAGE AND PREPARE TO MOVE OUT...

IN ANOTHER PLACE AND TIME
THE PRIME MOVER FOUND
HIMSELF CONFRONTED BY
AN AWESOME PRESENCE...

FOR HIS DISCORDANT NOTES
HAD FRACTURED THE PATTERN
OF HARMONY, CREATING A
GAP IN TIME...

A GAP THROUGH WHICH
THERE NOW PLUNGED A
HORRIFYING FIGURE...
THE DEMON
MELANICUS!

FOR A THOUSAND
YEARS I HAVE WAITED!
A THOUSAND YEARS IN
THE BLACK, FORMLESS
VOID...

AND NOW
I LIVE!

**NO! GO
BACK!**
YOU HAVE NO
PLACE IN THIS
WORLD!

STAND ASIDE,
OLD ONE! YOU
HAVE RULED FOR
TOO LONG!

THIS WORLD NOW
HAS A NEW
MASTER!

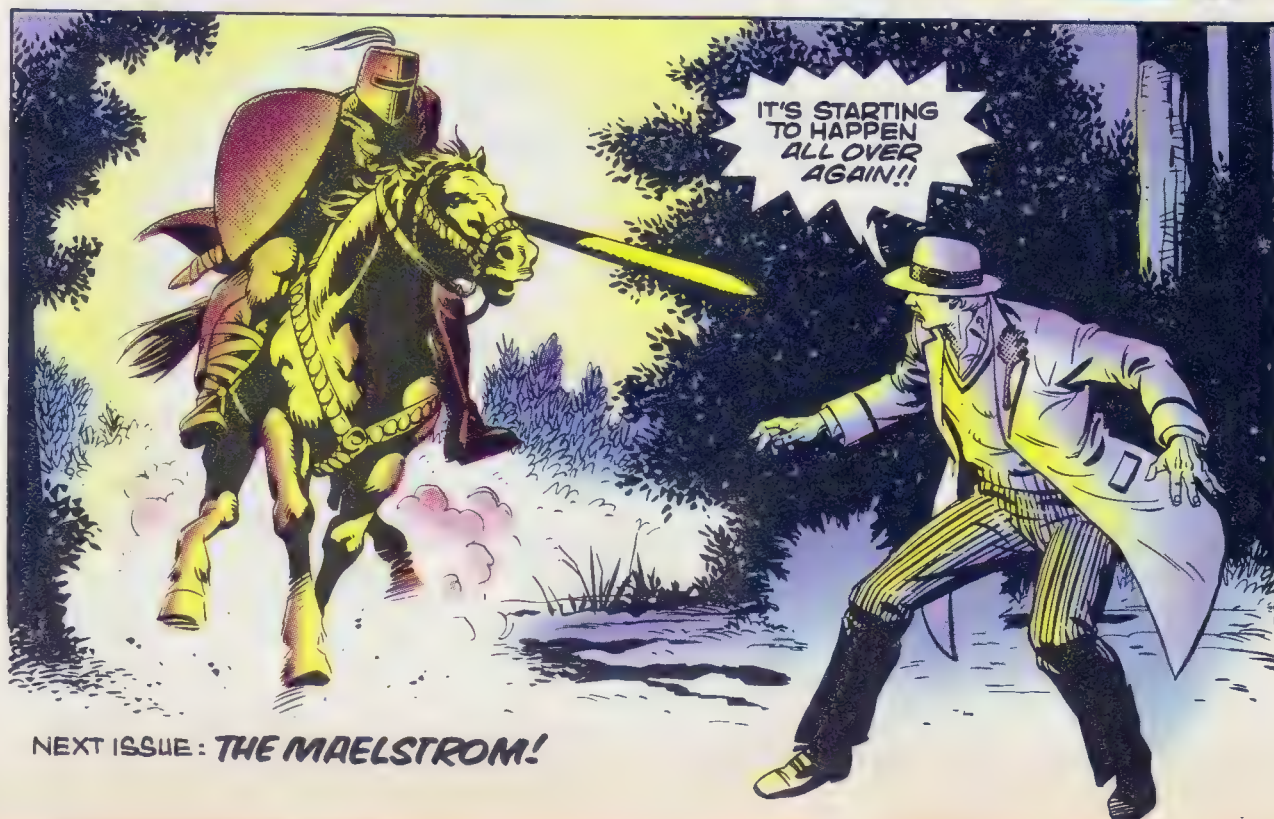
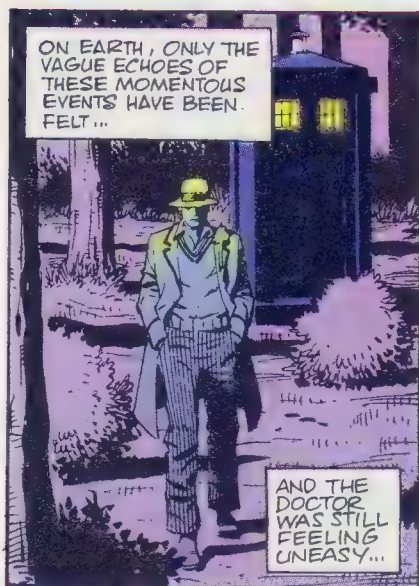
THERE ARE BEINGS
IN THIS REALM WHO
HAVE SEEN MY
FACE...

IN THE SHADOW-
WORLD OF THEIR
DARKEST
DREAMS...

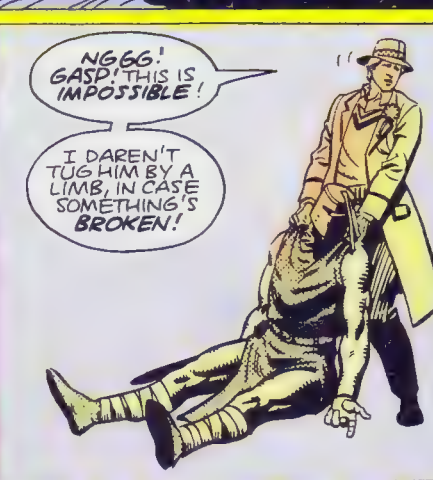
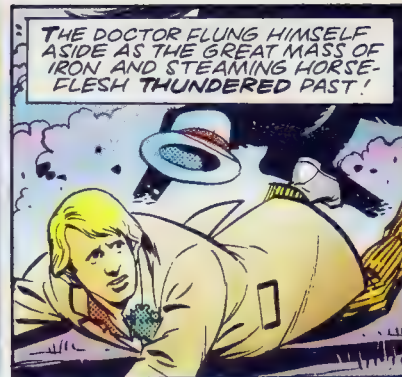
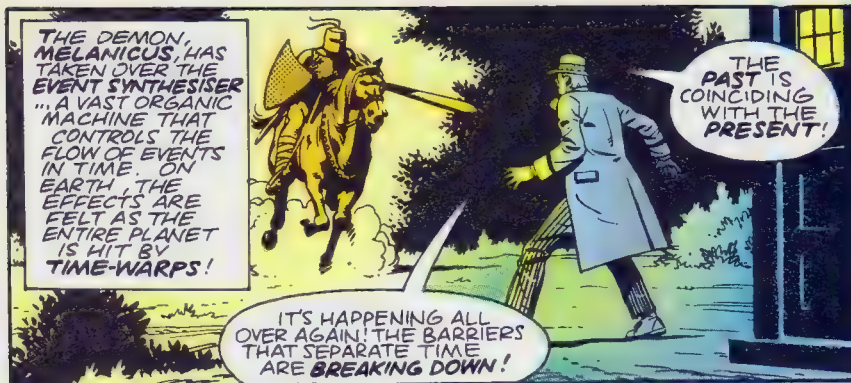
FOR THEM...
AS FOR ALL...
I PROMISE
ONLY...

FEAR!

DESTRUCTION!

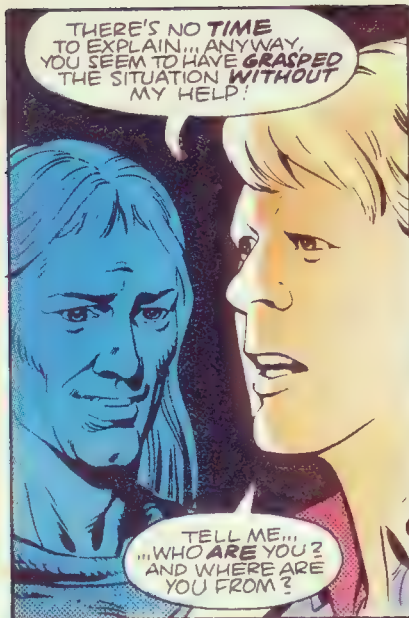


NEXT ISSUE: **THE MAELSTROM!**



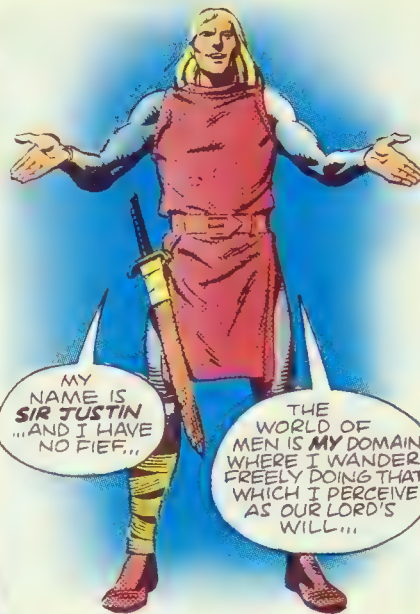
THE TIDES OF TIME

PART TWO



THERE'S NO TIME TO EXPLAIN... ANYWAY, YOU SEEM TO HAVE GRASPED THE SITUATION WITHOUT MY HELP!

TELL ME... WHO ARE YOU? AND WHERE ARE YOU FROM?



MY NAME IS SIR JUSTIN... AND I HAVE NO FIEF...

THE WORLD OF MEN IS MY DOMAIN, WHERE I WANDER FREELY DOING THAT WHICH I PERCEIVE AS OUR LORD'S WILL...



WELL, LOOK... BEFORE I CAN RETURN YOU TO YOUR OWN TIME, I HAVE ANOTHER JOURNEY TO MAKE... ARE YOU PREPARED TO FACE DANGER AND HARD-SHIP?

THEY ARE MY LIFE'S BLOOD! IF WE ARE TO PERFORM DEEDS OF GREAT PURPOSE, MY FRIEND... THEN SO BE IT!

LET THE ADVENTURE COMMENCE!



MEANWHILE, AT THE KEYBOARD OF THE EVENT SYNTHESISER, MELANICUS CONSIDERED HIS NEXT MOVE... WITH AN ENTIRE DIMENSION UNDER HIS CONTROL, THE CHOICE WAS ENORMOUS!

IT WOULD BE INTERESTING, WOULD IT NOT... TO GIVE MYSELF POWER ABOVE AND BEYOND THE DREAMS OF MORTAL BEINGS...?

TO BE OMNIPRESENT! TO BE IN ALL PLACES AT ONCE... TO BE ALL-KNOWING... ALL-POWERFUL! THE RULER OF ALL TIME!

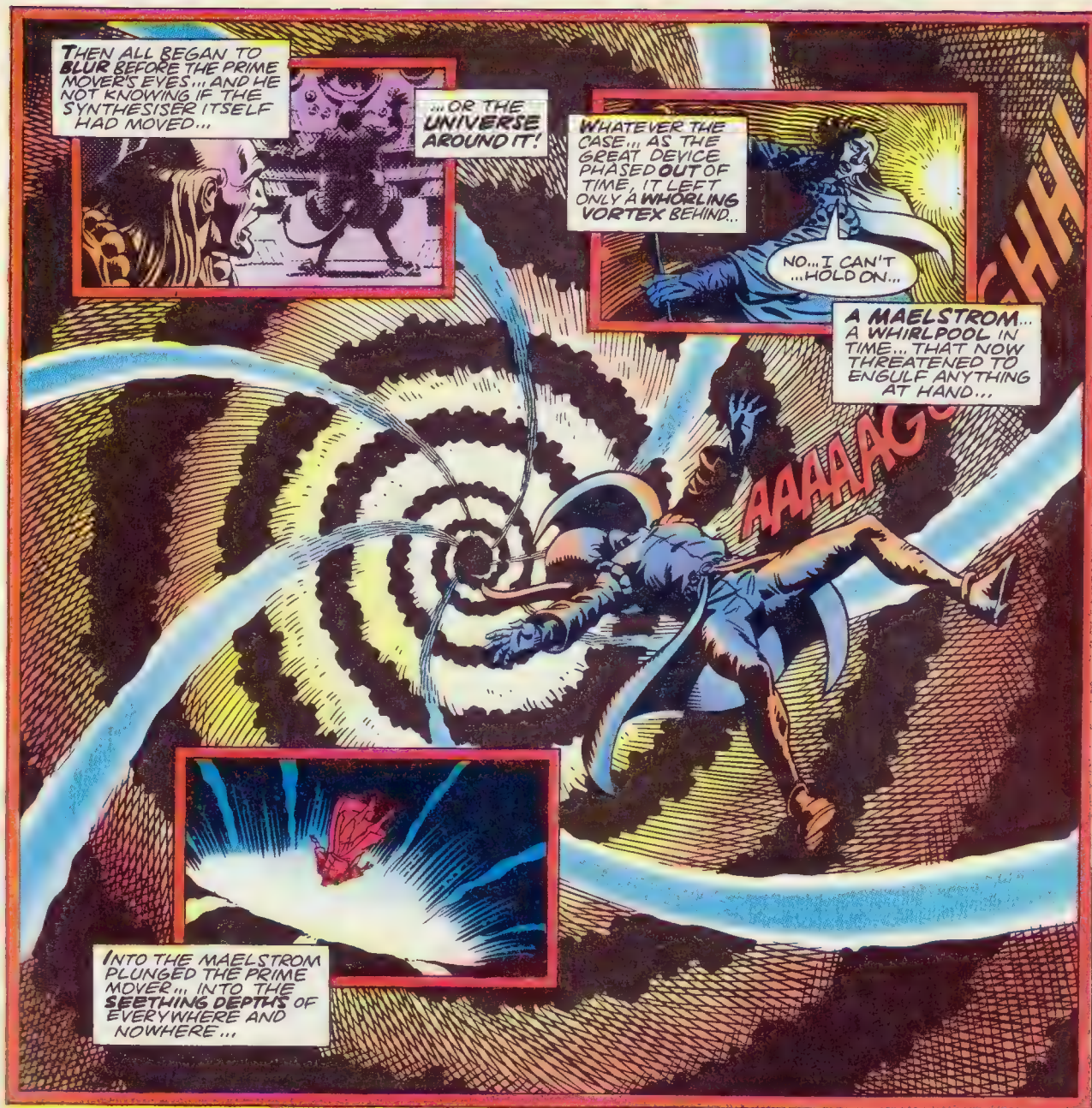
THE SYNTHESISER'S GUARDIAN, THE PRIME MOVER, STRUGGLED TO INTERVENE...

NO! YOU CANNOT! THERE ARE THOSE WHO WOULD STOP YOU! ON EVERY WORLD THEY WOULD FIGHT YOU... AND WIN!

THAT'S IT, OLD ONE! YOU HAVE HELPED ME IN MY DECISION!

I MUST HIDE! THERE... IN THE ABYSS OF TIME... I WILL DWELL FOR EVER... BEYOND THE REACH OF ALL...

AND YET CONTROLLING THEM... LEADING THEM ALL IN THE DANCE OF DEATH! INTO THE DOORS OF THE DARK KINGDOM!



LOST IN THE ABYSS... LIKE A TINY GRAIN IN THE SANDS OF TIME...



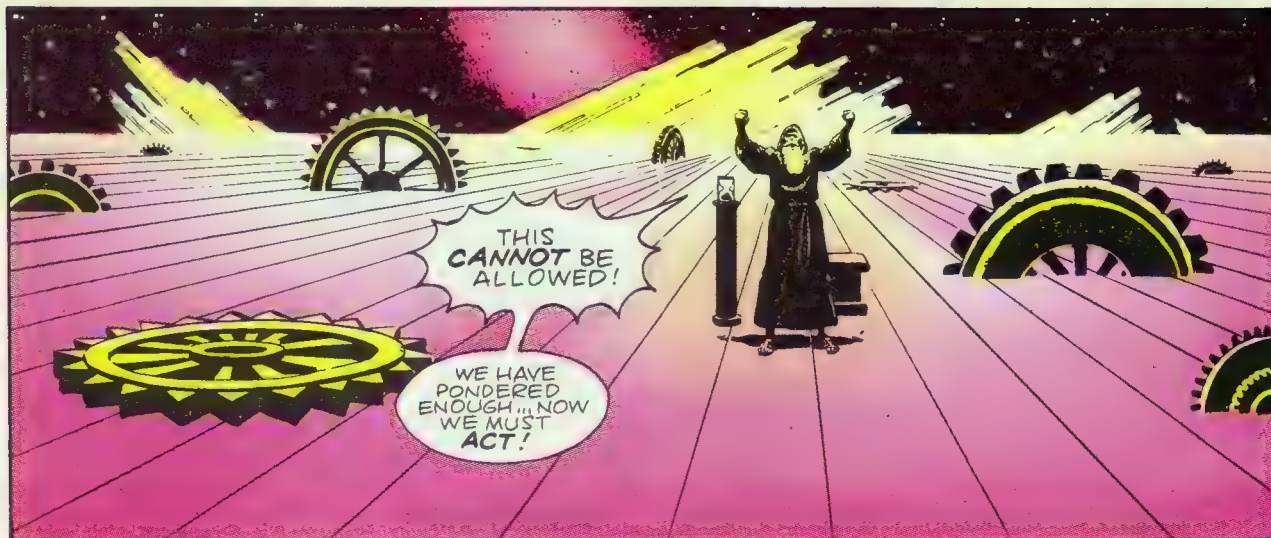
AND AMIDST THE MENTAL LANDSCAPE OF THE GREAT MATRIX DATA BANK ON THE PLANET GALLIFREY...

ANOTHER MIND CONTEMPLATED THE ANOMALIES OF TIME...



A MIND WELL ACQUAINTED WITH THE PARADOXES OF PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE... THE COSMIC ENGINEER HIMSELF... RASSILON!

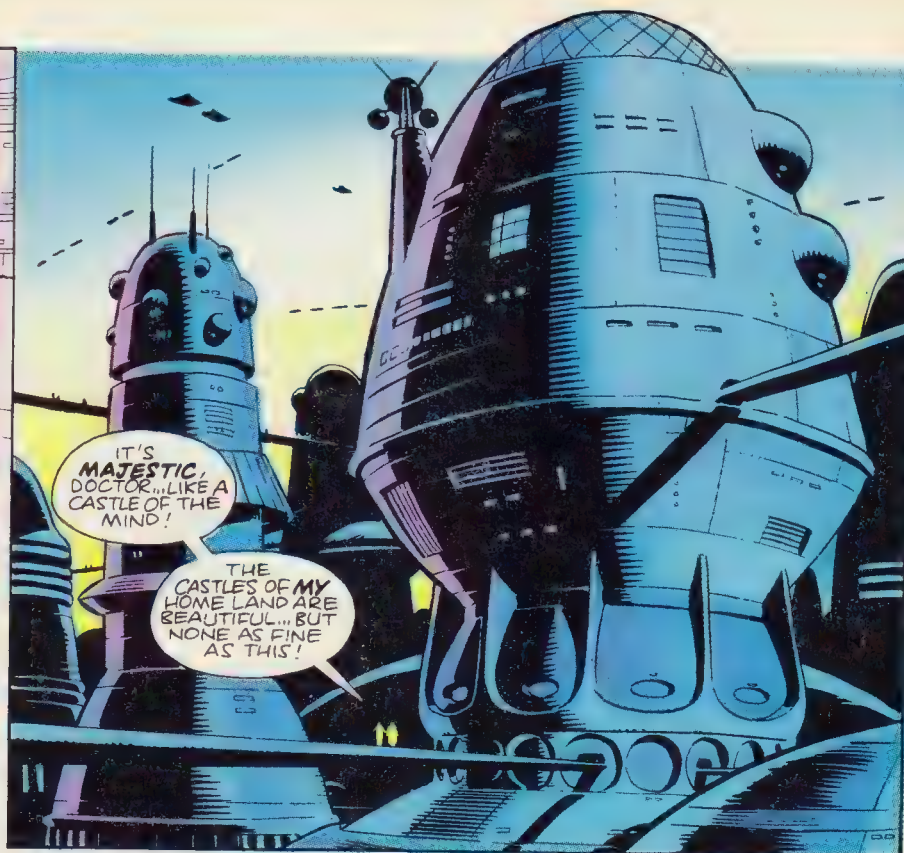






WELCOME TO GALLIFREY, SIR KNIGHT! THIS IS MY NATIVE PLANET... SOME DAY, WHEN MY WANDERINGS ARE OVER... I WILL MAKE MY HOME HERE!

WHAT DO YOU THINK?



IT'S MAJESTIC, DOCTOR... LIKE A CASTLE OF THE MIND!

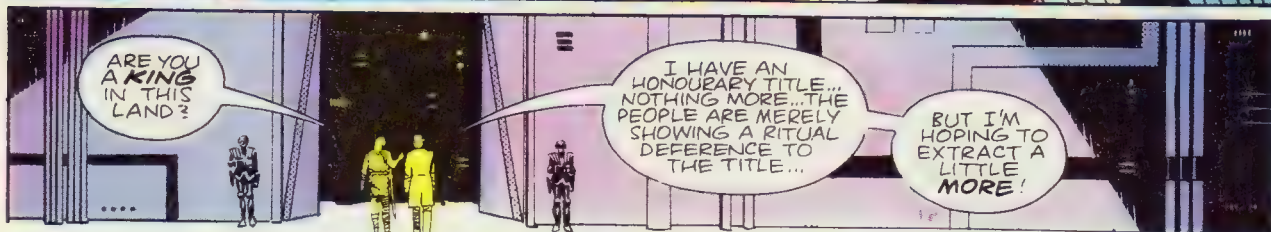
THE CASTLES OF MY HOME LAND ARE BEAUTIFUL... BUT NONE AS FINE AS THIS!



THE DOCTOR'S ARRIVAL HAD NOT GONE UNNOTICED... FOR IN THE SECURITY WING OF THE PANOPTICON COMPLEX...

THE PRESIDENT'S TARDIS HAS MATERIALISED, CAPTAIN! HIS PERSONAL CODE HAS BEEN VERIFIED BY MATRIX CENTRAL!

OPEN THE MAIN DOORS... CLEAR THE MATRIX ROOM... ALL INLETS ARE TO BE MADE ACCESSIBLE TO THE PRESIDENT AT ONCE!



ARE YOU A KING IN THIS LAND?

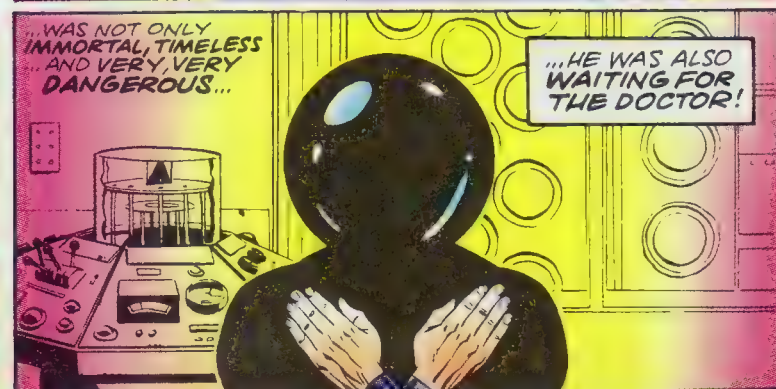
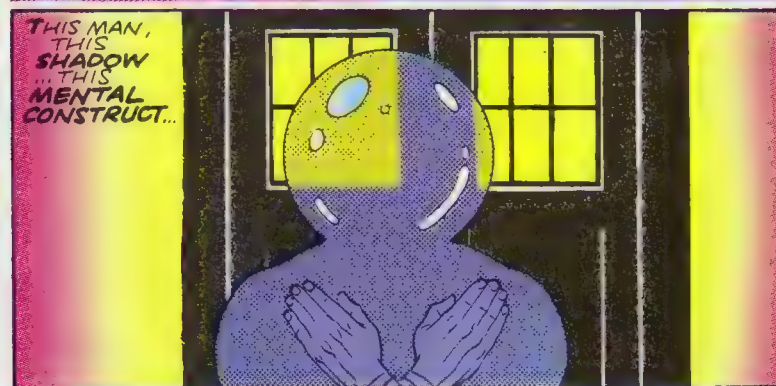
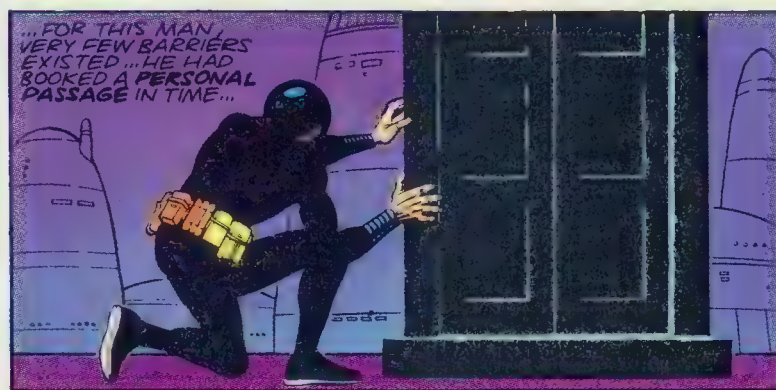
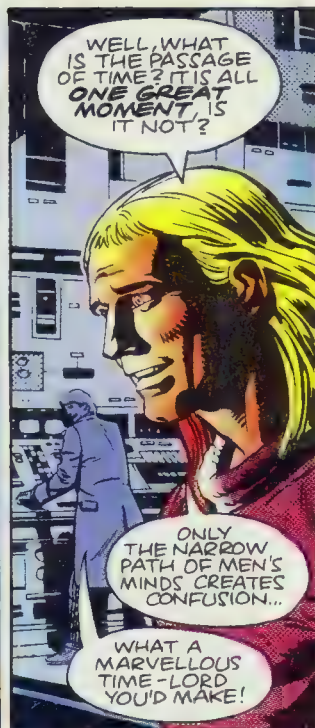
I HAVE AN HONOURARY TITLE... NOTHING MORE... THE PEOPLE ARE MERELY SHOWING A RITUAL DEFERENCE TO THE TITLE...

BUT I'M HOPING TO EXTRACT A LITTLE MORE!



THE MATRIX ROOM ITSELF HELD MORE WONDERS FOR THE KNIGHT...

I ALWAYS KNEW THAT SUCH PLACES EXISTED... FOR I HAVE OFTEN SEEN THEM IN MY THOUGHTS AND DREAMS!



WHO, AT THAT MOMENT, WAS BUSILY ENGAGED ELSEWHERE... HOOKED UP TO THE GREAT DATA BANK KNOWN AS THE **MATRIX**, WHICH CONTAINED ALL THE INFORMATION GATHERED BY TIME-LORDS THROUGHOUT GALLIFREYAN HISTORY...

AND MORE! FOR THE DOCTOR KNEW THAT THOSE TIME-LORDS STILL EXISTED IN DIS-EMBODED FORM...



AND HAD MADE THEIR HOME WITHIN THE SYNTHETIC SYNAPSES OF THE GREAT COMPUTER...



RASSILON...

WELCOME ONCE AGAIN, DOCTOR... TO THE HOME OF THE **CELESTIAL INTERVENTION AGENCY**...

YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH TIME-LORDS **MORYANE** AND **BEDEVERE**...



MAY I INTRODUCE **DAKON THEKA**... AND THE **THANE OF KORDAR**... BOTH HIGHER EVOLUTIONARIES FROM THE **ALTHRACE SYSTEM**...



... AND FROM **PLANET EARTH**... **MERLIN THE WISE!**

GREETINGS, TIME LORD... WE MEET AGAIN, PERHAPS SOONER THAN YOU THOUGHT...

... AND UNDOUBTEDLY SOONER THAN YOU'D **HOPED!**



NEXT

JOURNEY TO THE EDGE OF FOREVER!

THE TIDES OF TIME

PART
THREE

THE GREAT DEMON, MELANICUS, HAS TAKEN OVER THE **EVENT SYNTHESIZER** -- A VAST ORGANIC MACHINE THAT REGULATES THE FLOW OF EVENTS IN TIME... DURING THE STRUGGLE WITH THE MACHINE'S GUARDIAN, A HUGE MAELSTROM WAS CREATED... A WHIRLPOOL IN SPACE...

...FROM WHICH THERE NOW ISSUED AN OBJECT... NOT SO MUCH A **PROJECTILE** AS A **SOUND**... SOMETHING WHICH, IN DAYS GONE BY, MAY HAVE BEEN KNOWN AS A **SPELL**...

... A **MANTRIC BOMB**... A CAPSULE OF ENERGY... DESIGNED TO BURST UPON ITS UNSUSPECTING TARGET...

...THE PLANET
GALLIFREY!

WHILE ON THE PLANET'S SURFACE, DEEP WITHIN THE LABYRINTH OF THE **MATRIX DATA BANK**, THE DOCTOR AND THE GALLIFREYAN MASTERS OF TIME HOLD AN **EMERGENCY MEETING**...

DOCTOR... AN ACCOUNT OF RECENT **COSMIC EVENTS** WILL BE FED **DIRECTLY** INTO YOUR BRAIN'S MEMORY CELLS...

THEREBY YOU WILL BECOME AS **COGNISANT** OF THE FACTS AS OURSELVES...

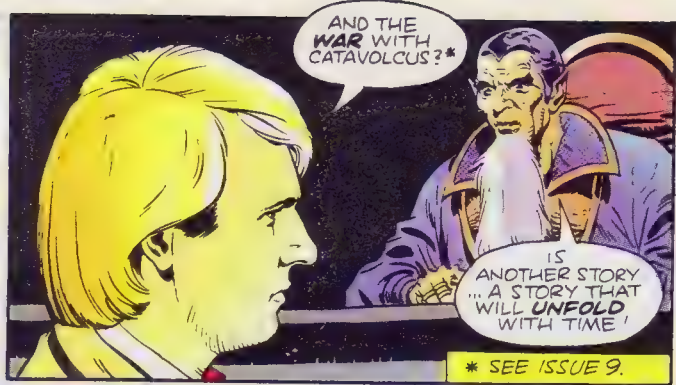
I APPRECIATE THAT, LORD RASSILON... BUT MAY I ASK WHY YOU FOUND IT NECESSARY TO INCLUDE... UH... **MERLIN THE WISE**... AT A COUNCIL OF HIGH EVOLUTIONARIES?

OH, COME NOW, DOCTOR...



"THE VERY FACT OF MY PRESENCE ...WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF SOPHISTICATED GADGETRY, SHOULD BE JUSTIFICATION ENOUGH ..."

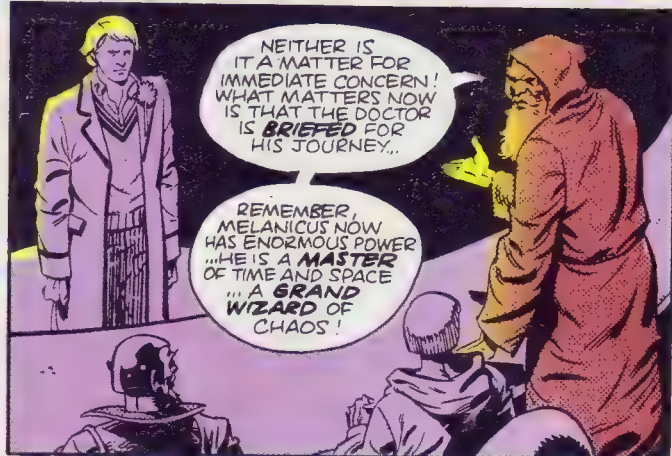
"...EXCEPT THAT I HAPPEN TO **KNOW** THE MAIN ADVERSARY ...ONE **MELANICUS**, WHO HOLDS A HIGH RANK IN THE DEMONIC PANTHEON ...AND WHO I ONCE BANISHED FOR A THOUSAND YEARS!



AND THE WAR WITH CATAVOLCUS? *

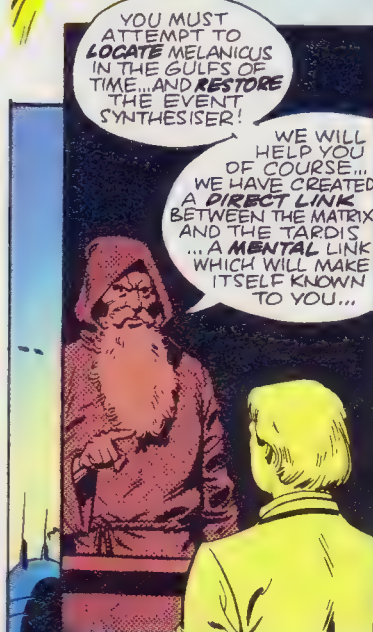
IS ANOTHER STORY ... A STORY THAT WILL **UNFOLD** WITH TIME!

* SEE ISSUE 9.



NEITHER IS IT A MATTER FOR IMMEDIATE CONCERN! WHAT MATTERS NOW IS THAT THE DOCTOR IS **BRIEFED** FOR HIS JOURNEY...

REMEMBER, MELANICUS NOW HAS ENORMOUS POWER ...HE IS A **MASTER** OF TIME AND SPACE ...A **GRAND WIZARD OF CHAOS**!

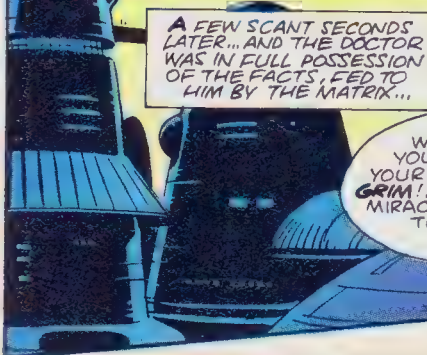


YOU MUST ATTEMPT TO **LOCATE** MELANICUS IN THE GULFS OF TIME...AND **RESTORE** THE EVENT SYNTHESISER!

WE WILL HELP YOU OF COURSE... WE HAVE CREATED A **DIRECT LINK** BETWEEN THE MATRIX AND THE TARDIS ...A **MENTAL LINK** WHICH WILL MAKE ITSELF KNOWN TO YOU...

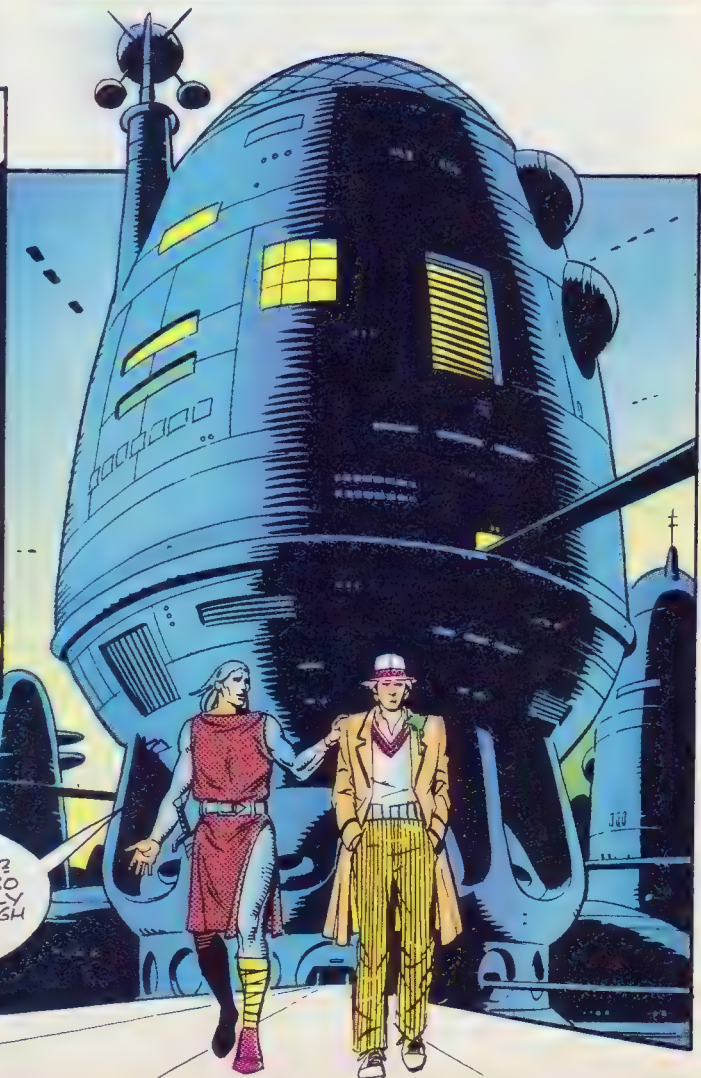


RETURN NOW TO YOUR TARDIS ...YOUR **VOYAGE** IS ABOUT TO BEGIN!



A FEW SCANT SECONDS LATER...AND THE DOCTOR WAS IN FULL POSSESSION OF THE FACTS, FED TO HIM BY THE MATRIX...

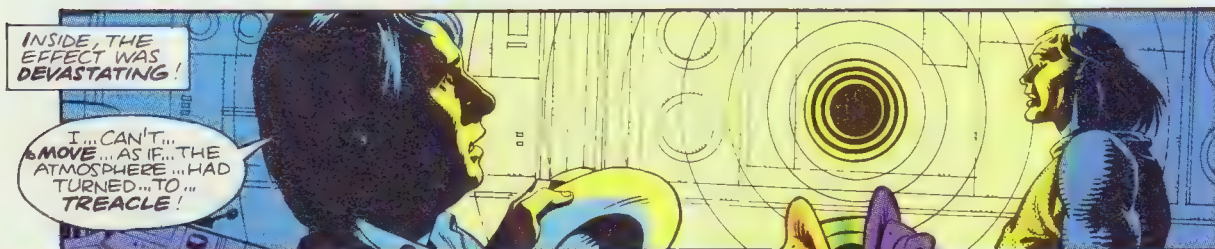
WHAT TROUBLES YOU, MY FRIEND? YOUR FACE LOOKS SO **GRIM**! ARE THESE DAILY MIRACLES NOT ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU HAPPY?

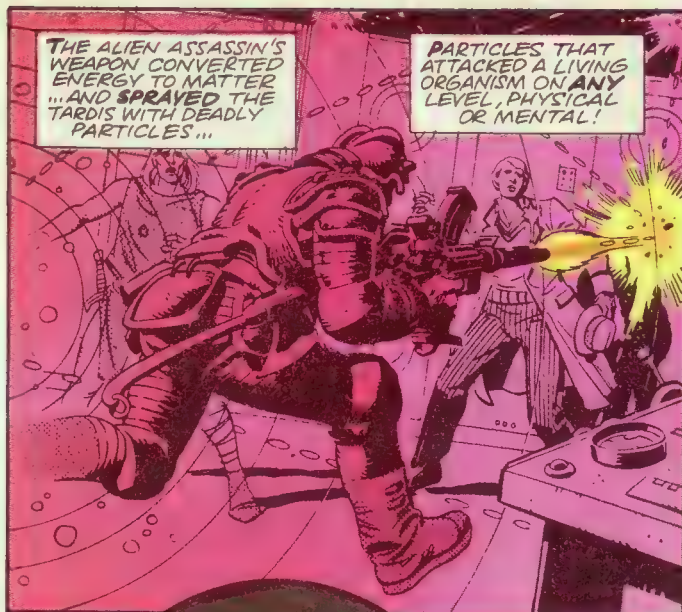




THE WAVE PATTERN ZEROED DOWN TO THE PLANET'S SURFACE... AND STRUCK THE TARDIS WITH A SOUND LIKE A THOUSAND DOUBLE BASSES!

THWOM!





THE ALIEN ASSASSIN'S WEAPON CONVERTED ENERGY TO MATTER ...AND SPRAYED THE TARDIS WITH DEADLY PARTICLES...

PARTICLES THAT ATTACKED A LIVING ORGANISM ON ANY LEVEL, PHYSICAL OR MENTAL!

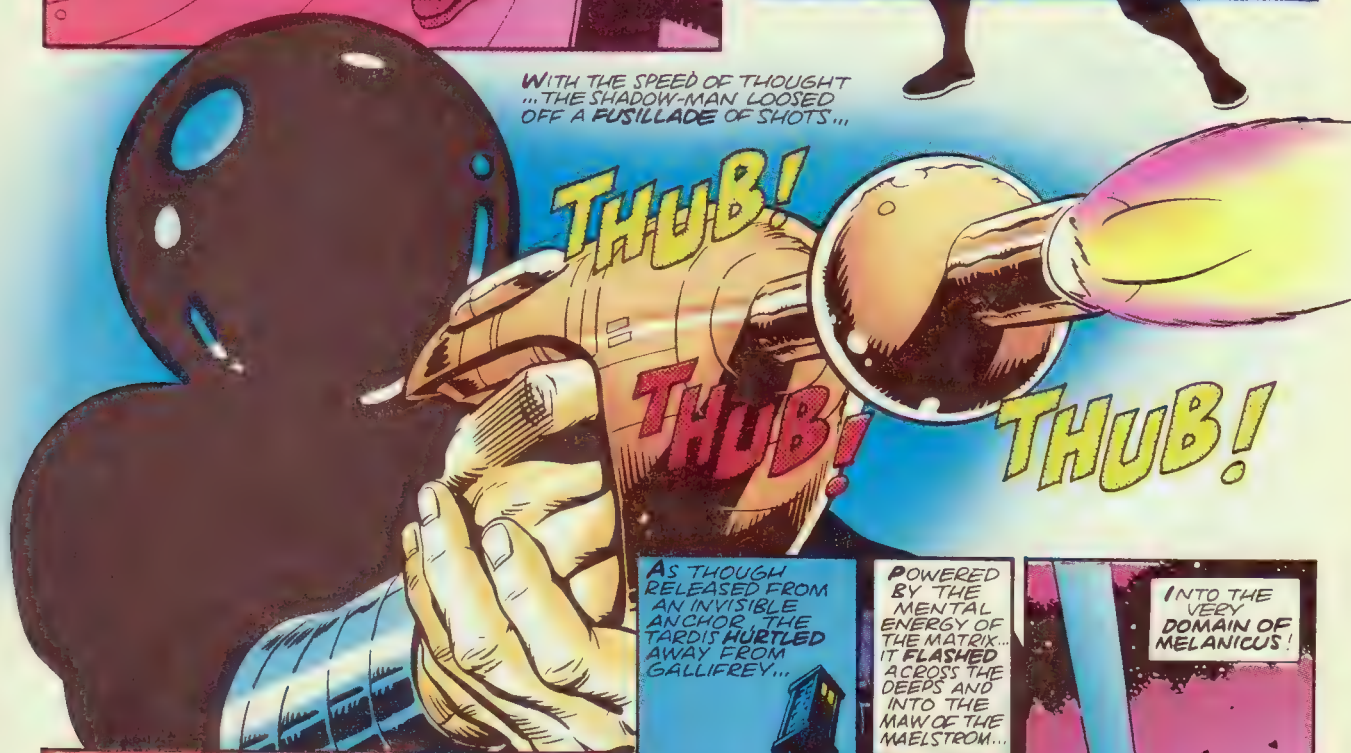


THEN, THROUGH THE PANDEMONIUM, THERE FLITTED A SHADOW... LIKE THAT OF A MAN...



YET NOT WHOLLY HUMAN...

WITH THE SPEED OF THOUGHT ...THE SHADOW-MAN LOOSED OFF A FUSILLADE OF SHOTS...



THUB!

THUB!

THUB!

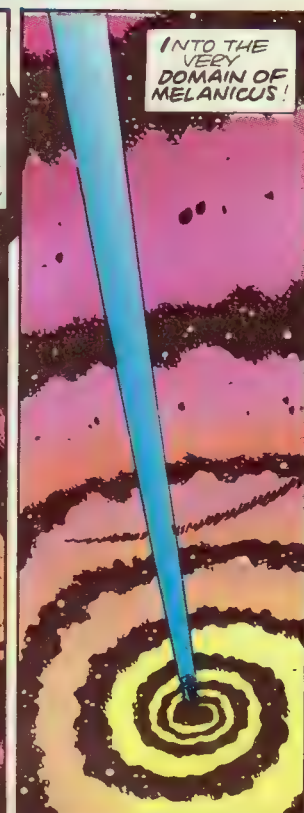
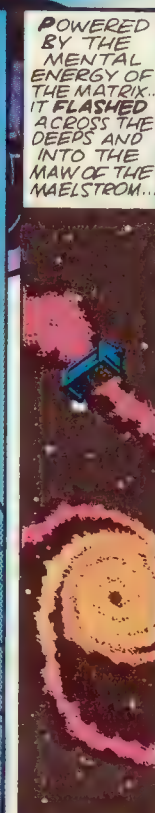
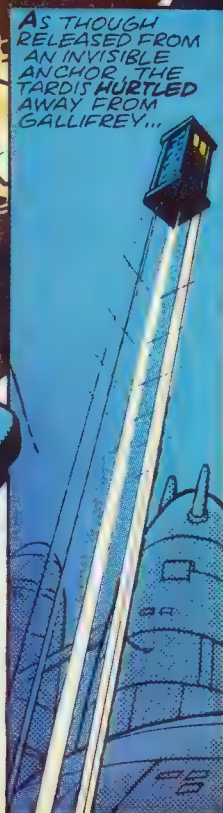
AS THOUGH RELEASED FROM AN INVISIBLE ANCHOR, THE TARDIS HURTTED AWAY FROM GALLIFREY...

POWERED BY THE MENTAL ENERGY OF THE MATRIX... IT FLASHED ACROSS THE DEEPS AND INTO THE MAW OF THE MAELSTROM...

INTO THE VERY DOMAIN OF MELANICUS!



THE PHANTOM ASSASSIN WAS OBLITERATED IN A SERIES OF SILENT, PSYCHIC EXPLOSIONS...



SPINNING DOWN
THROUGH ENDLESS
SPACE, THE TARDIS
FELL...UNTIL...

KA-BLOOSH!

WHAT IS
HAPPENING TO
US, MY FRIEND?
IS ALL THIS
REAL?

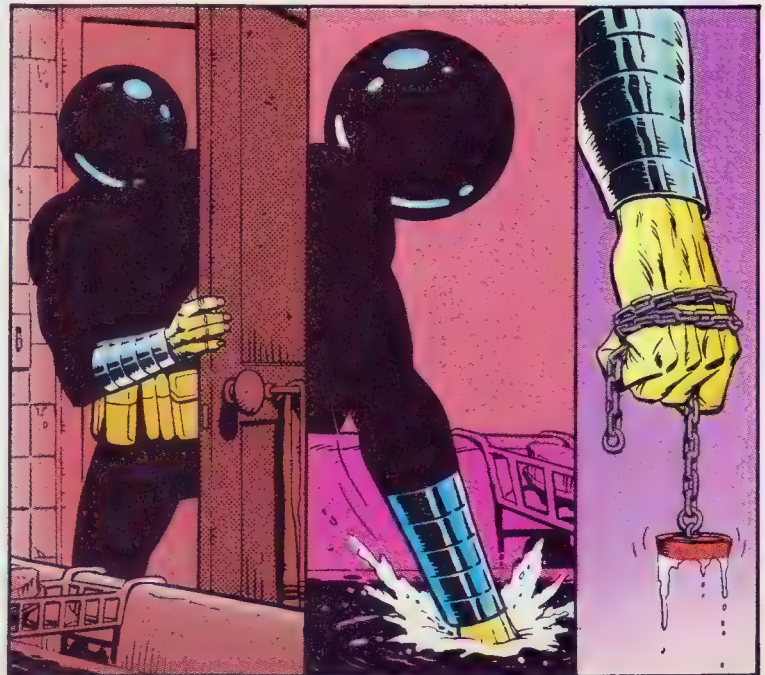
WE SEEM TO
HAVE **SPLASHED DOWN** IN A
LARGE BODY OF WATER...BUT
I'M GETTING THE **ODDEST**
PICTURES ON THE SCANNER!

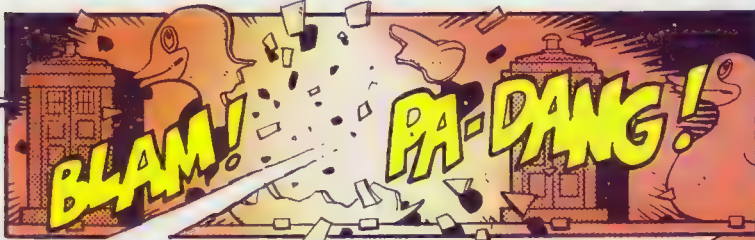
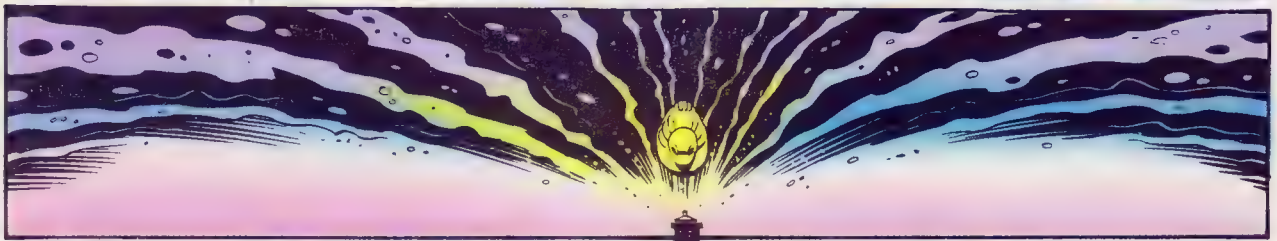
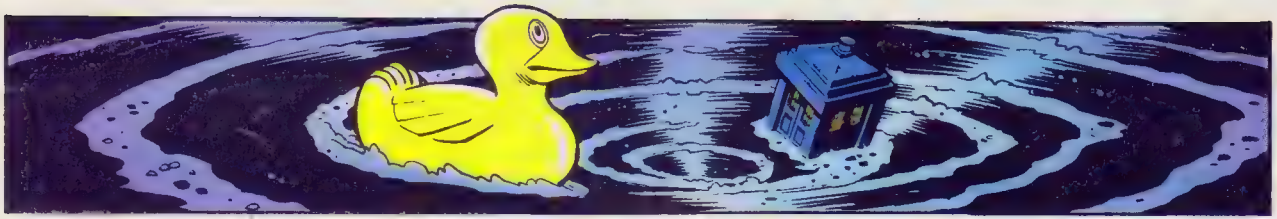
VERY ODD
INDEED!

THE SCANNERS
INDICATE A LARGE,
HOLLOW PLASTIC OBJECT...
NO MEANS OF PROPULSION
...NO MECHANISM WHAT-
SO EVER...IN SHORT...

A GIANT
TOY DUCK!

I DON'T
PRETEND TO
UNDERSTAND
THIS AT
ALL!





THREE DUCKS
WITH THREE SHOTS
WINS A COCONUT! A
COCONUT FOR THE
GENTLEMAN WITH
NO FACE!

DON'T
EAT IT ALL
AT ONCE,
MISTER!



COME ON
NOW...TRY YER
LUCK! THREE SHOTS
FOR FIFTY! WIN A
PRIZE EVERY
TIME!

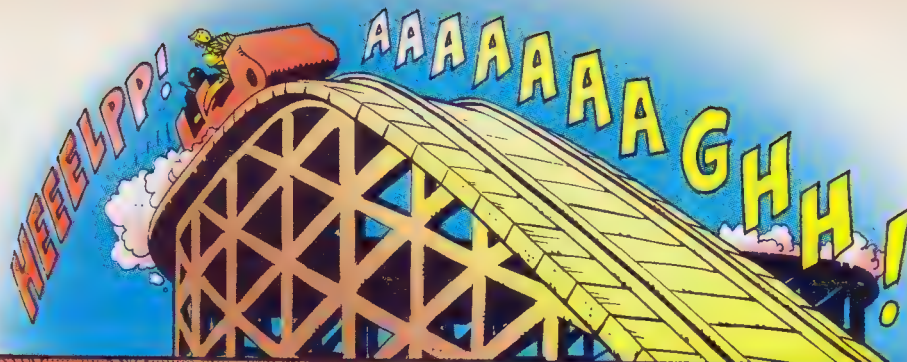


DOCTOR
...WHAT IS
THIS PLACE? IS
IT SOME KIND OF
MARKET?

IT'S A
FAIRGROUND,
JUSTIN... A CARNIVAL!
IT'S A BIT LIKE THE FAIRS
AND MARKETS OF YOUR
TIME, EXCEPT THAT
IT'S DEVOTED TO
ENTERTAINMENT...







NEXT
ISSUE:

DREAM WARS!

THE TIDES OF TIME

PART
FOUR

THE DEMON MELANICUS HAS TAKEN OVER THE EVENT SYNTHESISER, A VAST ORGANIC MACHINE THAT CONTROLS THE FLOW OF EVENTS IN TIME... HE NOW HAS THE POWER TO PROJECT ILLUSIONS ON A COSMIC SCALE!

THE TIME LORDS OF GALLIFREY HAVE SENT THE DOCTOR TO RECOVER IT... AND AFTER A HAIR-RAISING RIDE ON A HELLISH ROLLER-COASTER, THE DOCTOR NOW CONFRONTS THE IMAGE OF MELANICUS HIMSELF!

ONLY ONE THOUGHT SPRINGS TO MIND AT THIS MOMENT IN TIME... IS THIS REAL, OR MERELY ANOTHER ILLUSION?

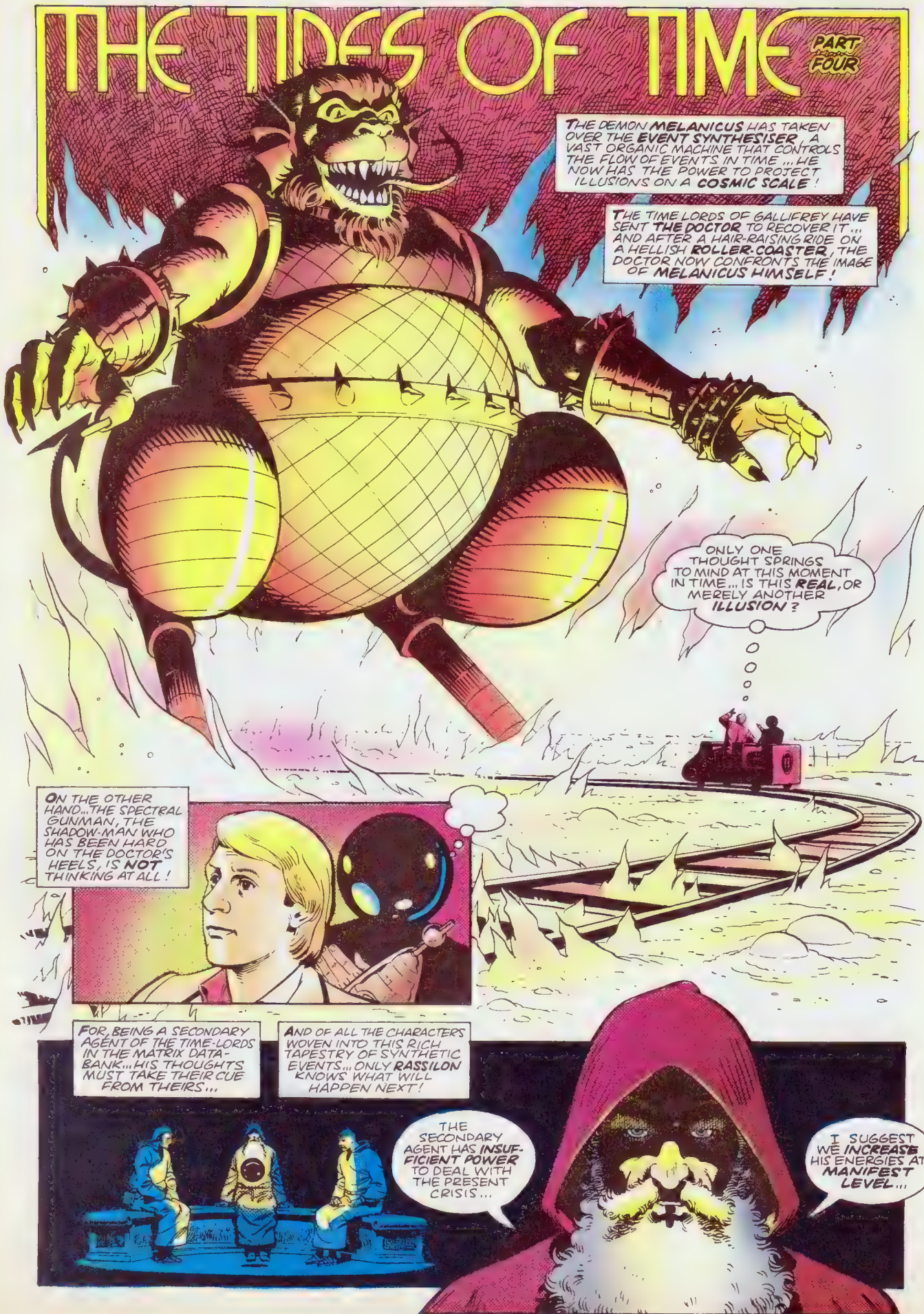
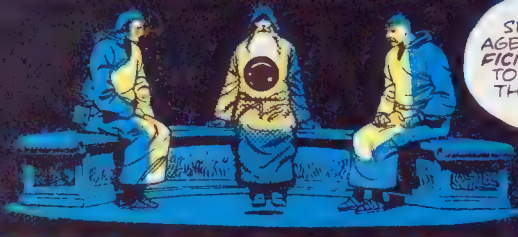
ON THE OTHER HAND... THE SPECTRAL GUNMAN, THE SHADOW-MAN WHO HAS BEEN HARD ON THE DOCTOR'S HEELS, IS NOT THINKING AT ALL!

FOR BEING A SECONDARY AGENT OF THE TIME-LORDS IN THE MATRIX DATA-BANK... HIS THOUGHTS MUST TAKE THEIR CUE FROM THEIRS...

AND OF ALL THE CHARACTERS WOVEN INTO THIS RICH TAPESTRY OF SYNTHETIC EVENTS... ONLY RASSILON KNOWS WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT!

THE SECONDARY AGENT HAS INSUFFICIENT POWER TO DEAL WITH THE PRESENT CRISIS...

I SUGGEST WE INCREASE HIS ENERGIES AT MANIFEST LEVEL...



CONSEQUENTLY...

DO NOT
WORRY UNDULY
DOCTOR... WHAT YOU
SEE BEFORE YOU IS A
VIBRATORY ILLUSION
CREATED BY
THE EVENT
SYNTHESISER!

TELL ME, WHAT'S THE
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A
VIBRATORY ILLUSION AND
REALITY... IF THEY ARE BOTH
CREATED AT THE SAME
SOURCE?

NONE
WHATSOEVER! SO
I SUGGEST YOU MOVE
YOUR HEAD TO
ONE SIDE...

FWAN!

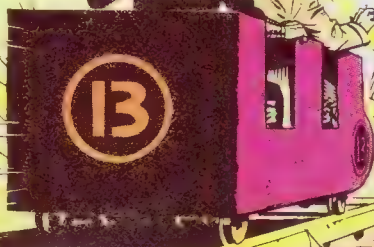
BLAAW!

TWO SHOTS WERE
FIRED... TWO SHOTS
FOUND THEIR TARGET...



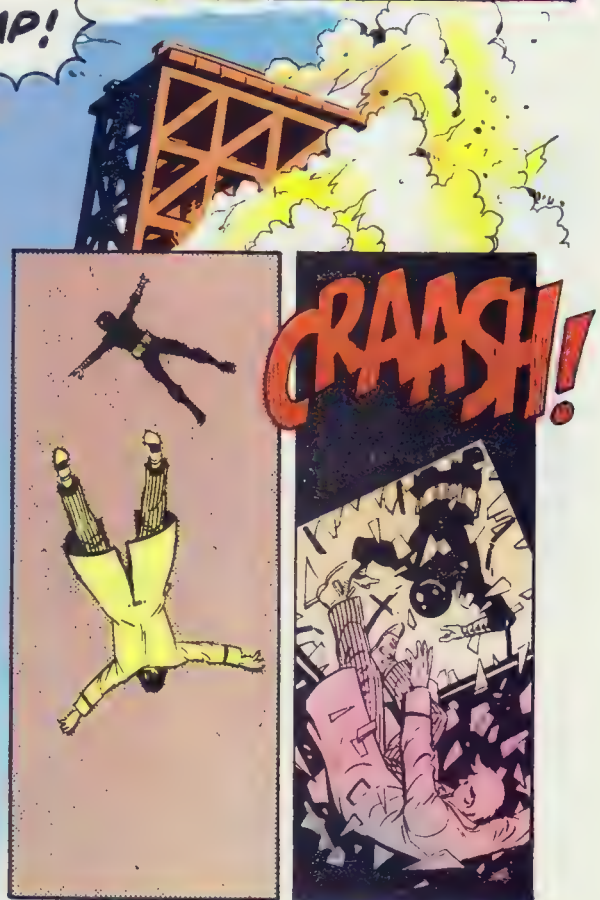
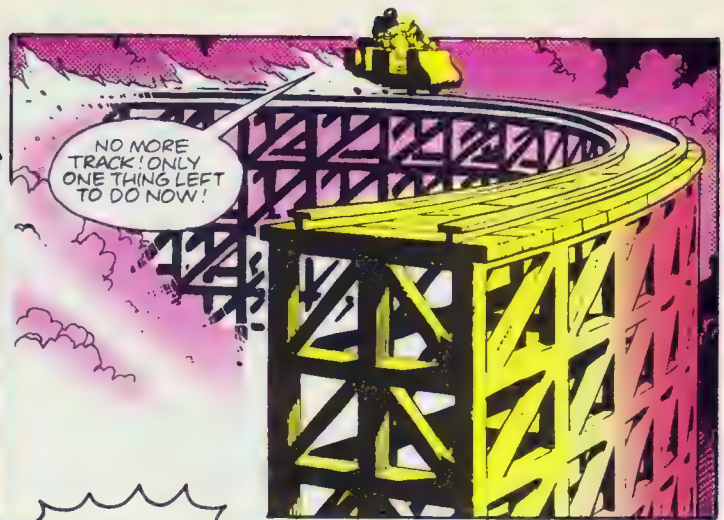
...WITH DEVASTATING RESULTS!

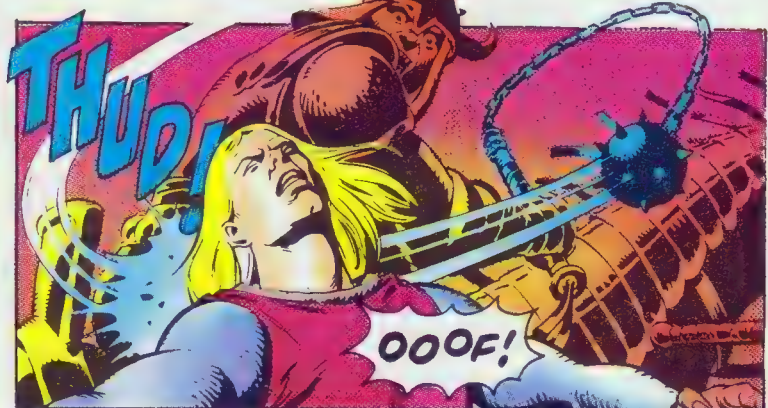
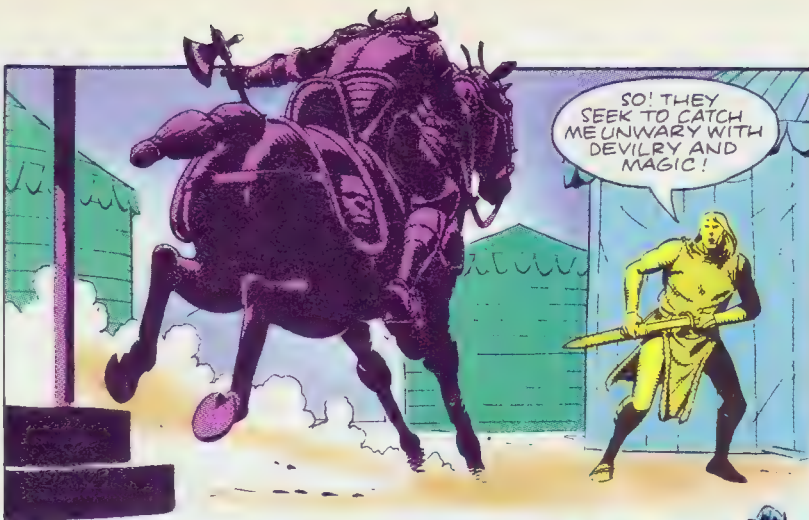
WHOOOPE!



THE DOCTOR'S CARRIAGE
MADE A RAPID EXIT
LIKE THE LEGENDARY
BAT FROM HELL!







THE KNIGHT'S DEFENCES
AGAINST MEDIEVAL
WEAPONRY WERE
WELL-TRIED...



AND THE STRENGTH OF
HIS RESOLVE MATCHED
ONLY BY THE STRENGTH
OF HIS ARMoured
LIMBS...



THERE
IS NO PROFIT
IN FACING
THIS RABBLE
ALONE...

I MUST
BE AWAY...
AND FIND THE
DOCTOR'S TIME-
ENGINE ONCE
MORE!



AT LEAST I
AM AFFORDED SOME
PROTECTION HERE
UNTIL THE DOCTOR
RETURNS FROM HIS
ADVENTURE!



AND WHAT OF THE DOCTOR?
LAST SEEN ACCELERATING
AT A GREAT RATE IN A
DOWNWARD DIRECTION...
ARE HIS FORTUNES
LOOKING UP?

OOOH... MY
HEAD... I FEEL
LIKE I'VE BEEN
DROPPED FROM A
GREAT HEIGHT...
AND I'M BEING
RAINED ON!



LIGHTNING
AS WELL! AND
NO SIGN OF
THAT MADMAN
WITH NO
FACE!



HE MUST HAVE
SAVED MY LIFE SEVERAL
TIMES OVER... HE MAY BE
MY ONLY LINK WITH REALITY
IN THIS INSANE
UNIVERSE...

ARE
YOU THERE?
HELLO! WHERE
ARE YOU?

HE'S
GONE... I'M
ALONE!

HOW
WILL I
EVER REPAY
HIM? AND WHO
WAS HE
ANYWAY?

HE MAY
BE HIDING...
IN SOME OTHER
PART OF THIS HOUSE
... ASSUMING, OF
COURSE, THAT
IT IS A
HOUSE!

THAT'S IT!
HE'S HIDING!
WAITING FOR
THE NEXT
BOUT OF
DANGER!

... SOMEWHERE
IN THE DARKEST
CORNERS OF THIS
OLD DARK HOUSE,
WHERE THE
SHADOWS LIE
THICKEST...

THERE HE
WAITS...

SO INTENT WAS THE
DOCTOR ON THE FATE
OF HIS ETHEREAL
COMPANION... HE
FAILED TO NOTICE
AN ALL-TOO-SOLID
OBSTACLE...

OOF!
WHAT ON
EARTH IS
THAT?

OH,
DEAR...

... I'M BEGINNING
TO WISH I HADN'T
ASKED!



NOW
JUST HOLD ON
ONE SECOND...CAN'T
WE TALK THIS
OVER? APPLY
A LITTLE
REASON?

FOR
INSTANCE, ARE YOU
AWARE THAT YOU
REPRESENT A STRICTLY
MYTHICAL FIGURE
DRAWN LARGELY
FROM A WORK
OF VICTORIAN
FICTION?



AS YOU CAN
SEE FROM YOUR
LACK OF REFLECTION
IN THE MIRROR
BEHIND ME, MY
FRIEND... YOU
DON'T
EXIST!

**BUT IN THE STRANGE
UNIVERSE THE DOCTOR
NOW INHABITS, ILLUSION
LURKS WITHIN ILLUSION
...FOR ON THE OTHER
SIDE OF THE MIRROR...**



DOCTOR!
IT IS I!
JUSTIN! CAN YOU
HEAR ME?



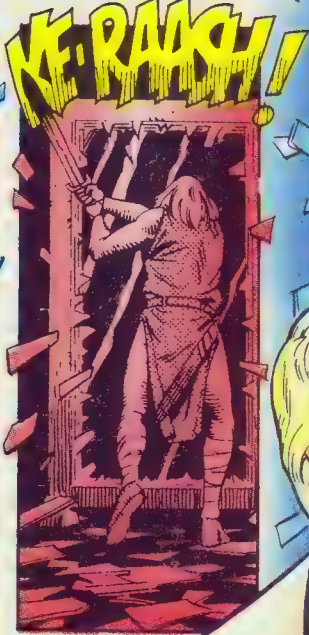
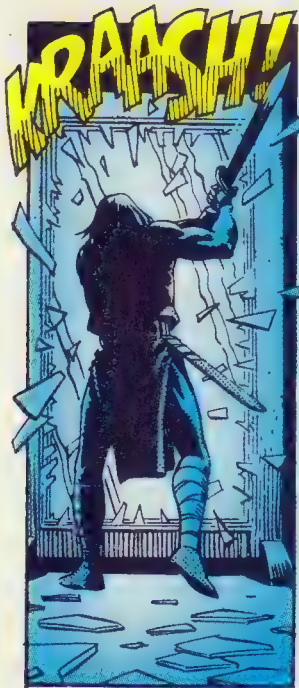
JUSTIN! I
CAN HEAR YOU!
IS THERE ANY WAY
YOU CAN BREAK
THROUGH?

STAND
BACK, DOCTOR!
I WILL
TRY!



ILLUSION
WITHIN ILLUSION
...LIKE THE **FALSE-
NESS** IN MEN'S
HEARTS! BUT I
WILL **NOT** BE
MISLED!





NEXT: THE TWENTY-NINTH YEAR!

BEHIND THE FLAME

From Kleptons to *Cat Litter* – John Ainsworth concludes the historical overview of the *Doctor Who* comic strips. After nearly thirty years of good, bad and ugly strips, what future does the Seventh Doctor have beyond television?



As the Eighties drew to a close, *Doctor Who* on television was only a step away from possible limbo. At Marvel though, things looked rather healthier for the Doctor.

Midway through the run of *Nemesis of the Daleks* in *Doctor Who Magazine*, Marvel launched a new title: **The Incredible Hulk Presents**. This weekly paper for young children was edited by Andy Seddon and entirely comprised four comic strips. As well as *The Incredible Hulk* himself there was *Action Force*, *Indiana Jones* and *Doctor Who*. The five-page *Doctor Who* strip was the only one of the four titles to be in black and white.

Doctor Who in **The Incredible Hulk Presents** featured, amongst others, some familiar names in its writer and artist credits, all of whom had previously worked on the *Doctor Who* strip in *Doctor Who Magazine*. These included John Freeman, Dan Abnett and Simon Furman on the writing front and artists John Ridgway, Cam Smith and Geoff Senior. The stories were a mixture of one and two-part adventures and for the most part were rather lighter in tone and more humorous than those in *Doctor Who Magazine*.

At the outset, it had been decreed that the *Doctor Who* strips in **The Incredible**

Hulk Presents would be reprinted in *Doctor Who Magazine* in between its own stories. The powers that be at Marvel UK realised that the readerships of both magazines would not necessarily overlap and reprinting the strips seemed to be a simple and economical way of making the most of their *Doctor Who* material. However, the editor of *Doctor Who Magazine*, John Freeman, was not very happy with this decision. As editor, John wanted to give his strip a clear direction and was not keen to have his serials regularly interspersed with stories over which he had no editorial control.

However, as it transpired, **Incredible Hulk Presents** was to last only twelve issues. The two-part *Hunger from the Ends of Time!* was the only strip to be reprinted in *Doctor Who Magazine*, in Issues 157 and 158. By the time of its cancellation with Issue 12, the *Doctor Who* strip for Issue 13 of **Incredible Hulk Presents** had already been completed. This unused one-part story was later run in *Doctor Who*

Magazine Issue 162 under the title of *Doctor Conqueror!*

Following the apocalyptic *Nemesis of the Daleks* in *Doctor Who Magazine*, Paul Cornell made his debut as a strip writer in Issue 156 with the one-part *Stairway to Heaven*. Cornell would go on to write several more adventures for *Doctor Who Magazine* and was to play an important guiding role in the Doctor's literary future.

INSECTOIDS

Train-Flight, a three-part story commencing in Issue 159, reintroduced Sarah Jane Smith into the strip for a special, one-story-only appearance. Meeting the Seventh Doctor for the first time, the two old friends do battle with the insectoid Kalik and save the day.

It had been ten years since Sarah had appeared in the comic strip. John Freeman was keen to entwine the continuity of the strip adventures and the television series and had approached Elisabeth Sladen for permission to use her likeness for the character she once played. Sarah is seen to be living in London and now claims to have "a successful career... with commitments."

When Sarah enquires whether the Doctor is travelling alone now, he tells her that his companion, Ace is "back in the cretaceous period." This apparently throw away remark was inspired by a conversation between the Doctor and Ace in the television adventure, *The Happiness Patrol*, and would be developed further in future issues.

As an aside, Episode One of *Train-Flight* carries the unusual byline, "With thanks to London Buses and British Rail for reference material."

Issue 161 featured the 'lost' **Incredible Hulk Presents** story, *Doctor Conqueror!* and also an illustrated text story by Andy Lane, *Living in the Past*. This adventure saw the Doctor travelling to the Cretaceous period to collect Ace. With this issue, Ace would become the Doctor's regular companion in all of his adventures.

John Freeman was keen to present a



mixture of strip and text stories in **Doctor Who Magazine**. However, the text adventures were not to prove particularly popular and after Issue 163's *Teenage Kicks* by Paul Cornell, the idea was dropped. Freeman later reworked the concept of the text stories in the form of the *Brief Encounters*. These short, principally continuity-based stories appeared from Issue 167 onwards and were not a part of the ongoing strip adventures.

COUNTRY PRACTICE

The three-part *Fellow Travellers* which began in Issue 164 was to be the first of several adventures to be scripted by Andrew Cartmel. As the latest script editor to work on *Doctor Who*, Cartmel's unique interpretation of the programme's concept had been very much in evidence in the last three seasons of the programme. Cartmel envisioned the Doctor as being a dark, mysterious and potentially dangerous individual. These aspects would be very much to the fore in all of Cartmel's strip stories.

With *Fellow Travellers*, Cartmel's haunting story is superbly coupled with the sombre art of Arthur Ranson who was new to the strip. Ranson's excellent work has also appeared in the pages of *Look-In* and *2000AD* and has recently been voted as the year's best UK artist by the readers of *Comic World*.

In *Fellow Travellers*, Cartmel introduces the idea that the Doctor has a country residence somewhere in England, a concept that he would return to in the future. Probably without realising it, Cartmel had drawn on the comic strip's own past recalling the adventures of the Third and Fourth Doctor who on occasions inhabited a cottage.

Back in Issue 161 of the magazine a one-page strip adaptation of the opening moments of *The Masque of Mandragora* had appeared on the inside front cover. This short piece, illustrated by Colin Howard, served as an introduction to an archive feature on the adventure in the same issue. To use the television script it had been necessary for John Freeman to seek clearance from the story's writer, Louis Marks. Not one to miss an opportunity, Freeman also secured permission from Marks to make use of his Mandragora concept in the main comic strip.

In 1976, during the closing moments of *The Masque of Mandragora* on television, the Fourth Doctor had told his companion Sarah that the Mandragora Helix would have a further opportunity to attack the Earth "towards the end of the twentieth century." Now, in 1990, the time was ideal for a sequel. *The Mark of Mandragora* was to be the next big strip story.

Paving the way for this adventure which would commence in Issue 169 were two 'prologues'. Both were to last only three pages rather than the usual seven and both had their own individual titles; *Darkness Falling* in Issue 167 and *Distractions* in 168.

IN THE NEWS

The same two issues carried the two-part article *Stripped for Action?* which made up somewhat for the diminished page count of the main strip. The main feature of the articles was the presentation of an incom-

plete *Doctor Who* strip story entitled, *Terror of the Deep*. As the article in Issue 167 explained, this adventure, drawn by Gerry Dolan and scripted by John Freeman, was the result of an abortive attempt to sell *Doctor Who* as a newspaper strip. As the strip was not picked up by any of the national newspapers, only the first twelve episodes exist. Accompanying *Terror of the Deep* in Issue 168 was an article that bravely attempted to place all of the Marvel *Doctor Who* strips within the chronology of the programme.

The strip returned to its normal page count in Issue 169 and *The Mark of Mandragora* got underway. The artist for the new strip and both its prologues was Lee Sullivan, whose illustrations were given a much darker feel by inker, Mark Farmer. Like Ridgway before him, Sullivan had fun illustrating the interior of the TARDIS, depicting scenes that would be quite beyond the meagre budgets of the

television series.

At one point during their explorations of the TARDIS, the Doctor and Ace stumble across the Malevilus, Magog who had been imprisoned within the TARDIS by the Fourth Doctor as far back as Issue 8 of *Doctor Who Weekly*.

The Mark of Mandragora also featured the return of UNIT to the strip, the military organisation that had featured in many of the Doctor's television adventures. The story was topped and tailed by cameo appearances of Brigadier Lethbridge-Stewart who had appeared in almost all of the stories featuring UNIT on television. Nicholas Courtney had given permission for the use of his likeness on the condition that the character only appeared for a few frames.

BONJAXXED

The next adventure was a light-hearted



one-part story scripted by the current editor of **Doctor Who Magazine**, Gary Russell. Russell's script debut tells of the Doctor and Ace's arrival at Bonjaxx's birthday party on Maruthea. The Doctor had been attempting to get to this party on and off for many issues past, and Russell decided that it was time he made it.

It would seem that just about everybody attends Bonjaxx's party including The Freefall Warriors, Doctor Asimoff, Shayde, a Klingon, the Daleks, a female Silurian, Deathhead, Abslom Daak, a Meep and Captain Britain! Perhaps the most surprising attendees though were one of the Doctor's future regenerations and his companion, Ria. Russell had taken these two characters from a series of fan-produced audio plays that he had been involved in. Photographs of the actors, Nicholas Briggs and Heather Barker, were given to artist Mike Collins to use as the character's likenesses.

Issue 174 of **Doctor Who Magazine** was heralded as a 'TARDIS Special'. In keeping with this theme *The Chameleon Factor*, a five-page strip by Paul Cornell related how the TARDIS acquired a new look control room. Woven into the tale, which revolves around the Doctor's mysterious ring, is a flashback appearance of the Second Doctor and his companions Ben and Polly.

Published at about this time was the **Doctor Who Summer Special** which was the first of the magazine's seasonal releases

to feature the appearance of the Doctor in an original strip story. *Seaside Rendezvous* covered only four pages and the writer was, once again, Paul Cornell. The adventure pitted the Doctor against a form of living sand, tenuously connecting it with the television story *The Stones of Blood*.

Back in the regular **Doctor Who Magazine**, Andrew Cartmel made a return as writer in Issue 175 with episode one of the four-part *The Good Soldier*. For some unexplained reason, the TARDIS has been transformed into a fifties sports car and the Doctor and Ace find themselves confronting the Cybermen.

Following John Freeman's one-part *A Glitch in Time* in Issue 179 came episode one of Andrew Cartmel's *Evening's Empire*. Artist Richard Piers Rayner, a newcomer to *Doctor Who*, provided some excellent, finely detailed illustrations for the story.

Unfortunately, episode one of *Evening's Empire* is all that has been published to date. Due to a combination of production difficulties and artwork lost in the post, the remaining five parts could not be printed. Happily though, two years later, a complete and expanded *Evening's Empire* will finally be published as a Holiday Special in Autumn 1993.

Due to the unexpected loss of *Evening's Empire* a hole was made in the schedule of the strip. This four-issue gap was bridged with reprints of strips from previous editions of **Doctor Who Weekly** and **Doctor**

Who Magazine.

The one new story to appear in this hiatus was Issue 183's *Conflict of Interests*. This episode did not feature the Doctor and depicted an isolated conflict between a group of Sontarans and a Foreign Hazard Duty team.

Normal service was resumed with Issue 185 with the return of the Doctor and Ace in *The Grief*. This three-part story was written by Dan Abnett and was highly reminiscent of the *Alien* films.

NEW ADVENTURES

The Grief was followed by Andrew Cartmel's controversial *Ravens*. The excessive violence and elements of witchcraft in the story were felt by several of **Doctor Who Magazine's** readers to be a taboo area for *Doctor Who*.

By now, Virgin Books had begun publishing their own series of original novels following on from where the series had left off on television in 1989. *Ravens* is set within the time-frame of Cartmel's own *Warhead* novel which is why Ace is not present in the story.

Editor John Freeman had by now made an agreement with Virgin Books to dovetail the new novels and the comic strip together. To fit in with these plans it was necessary to write Ace out of the strip for a while and introduce the new companion, Bernice who had been created by Paul Cornell for his novel, *Love and War*.

Marc Platt the writer of the television adventure *Ghost Light* was given the task of writing a one-part adventure for Ace as a kind of swan-song for the character.

Cat Litter followed Issue 191's *Memorial* and told a bizarre tale of Ace's flight through the TARDIS. A double-page spread is illustrated like a game board and many of artist John Ridgway's illustrations draw on the television adventure *The Invasion of Time* and Marc Platt's own novel, *Time's Crucible*.

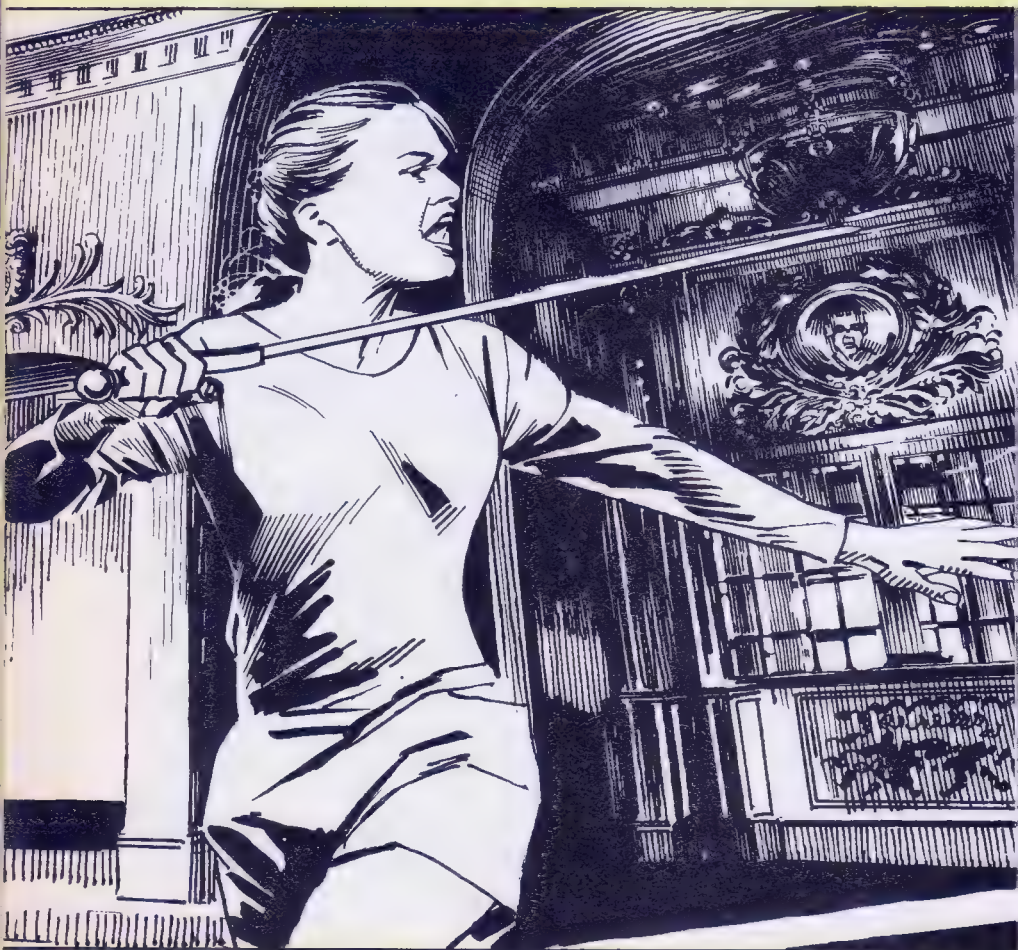
In the same issue as *Cat Litter* an article by Paul Cornell introduced readers to the new companion, Bernice Summerfield.

In the following issue (193) the new adventure, *Pureblood*, is clearly set after Cornell's *Love and War* and Bernice is already accompanying the Doctor at the story's opening.

Pureblood makes the odd move of siding the Doctor with the ruthless Sontarans whose planet has been destroyed by their enemies, the Rutans.

John Freeman's final story as editor of the strip was *Emperor of the Daleks*. Freeman gave Paul Cornell the difficult task of tying together all of the various Dalek adventures from both the strips and the television stories. As well as this, Cornell had to resurrect and reintroduce Abslom Daak and his companions.

As John Freeman hands the reigns of the strip to new editor Gary Russell, its future remains bright. With *Doctor Who* no longer on television and regular video releases from all eras of the programme the future of the strip may move away from the linear path it has taken up until now. There is now a greater awareness of all of the Time Lords' various incarnations. Maybe we will see a more mixed collection of stories from all eras of *Doctor Who* in the future.



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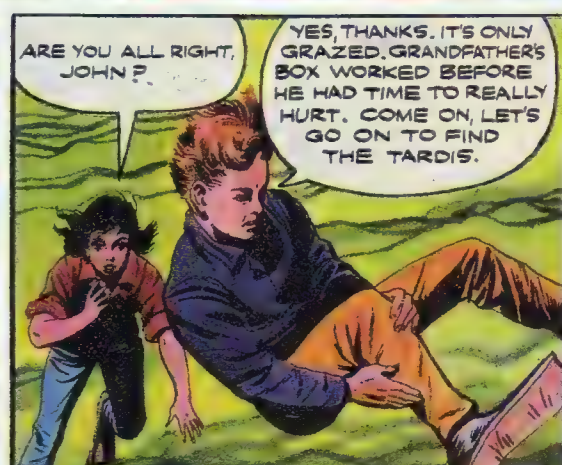
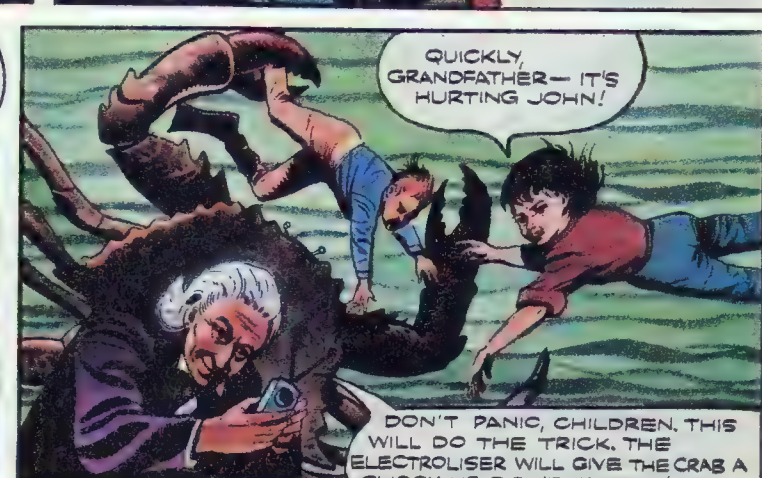
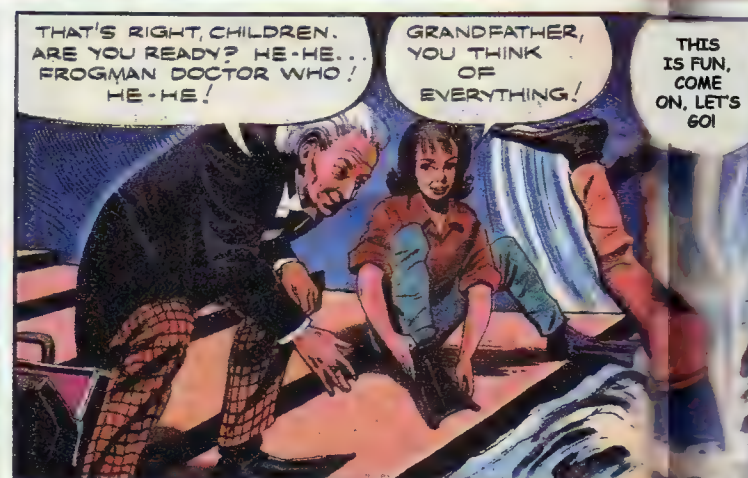
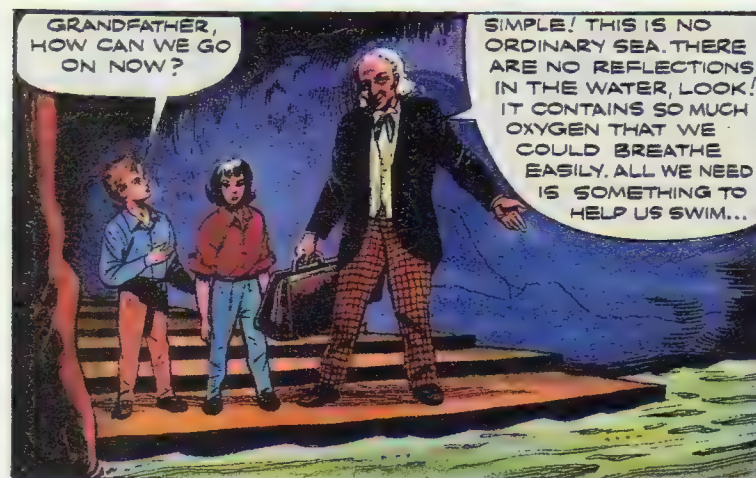
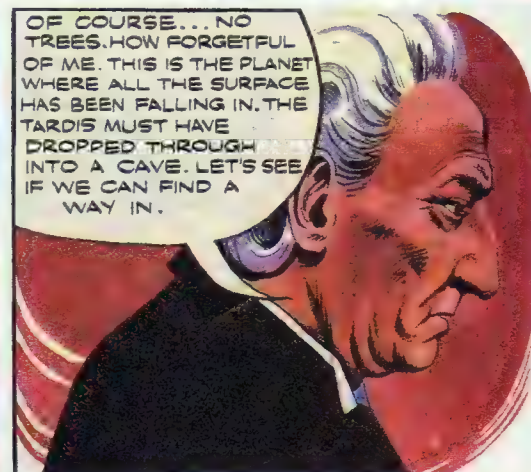
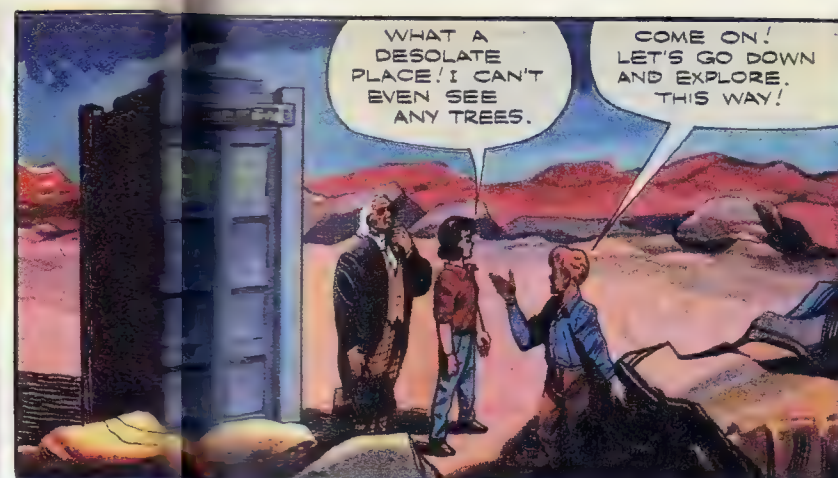
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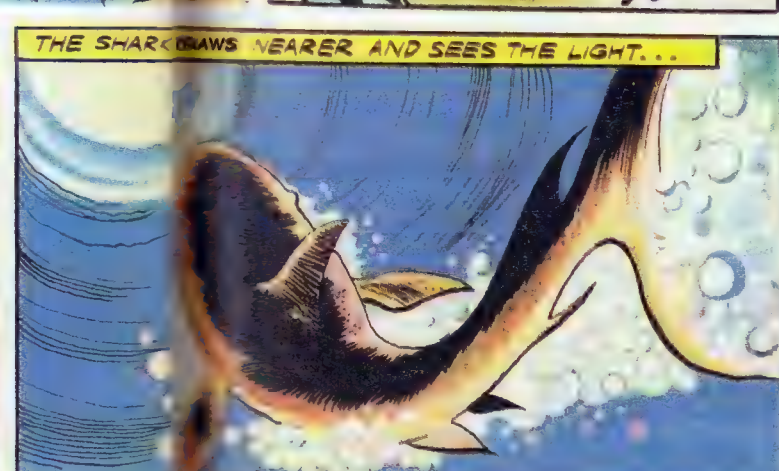
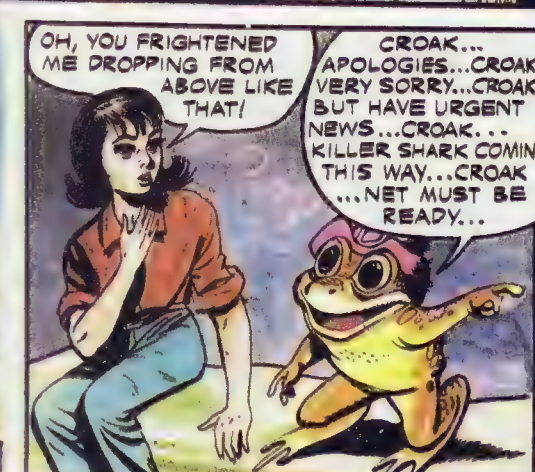
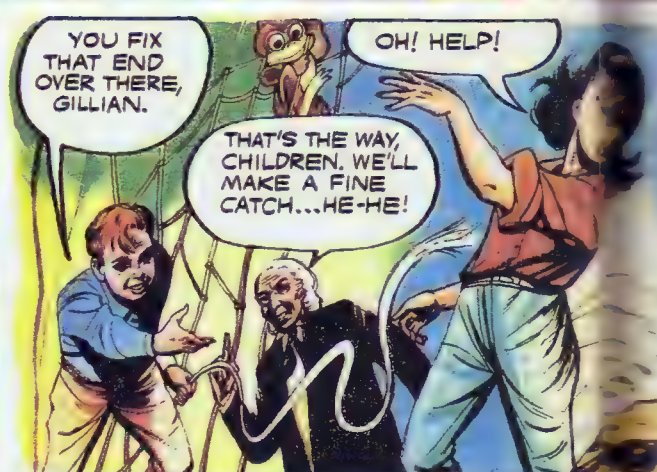
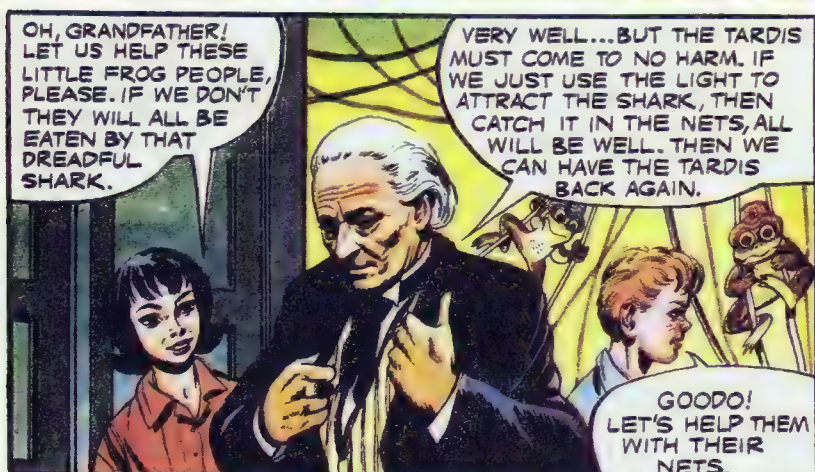
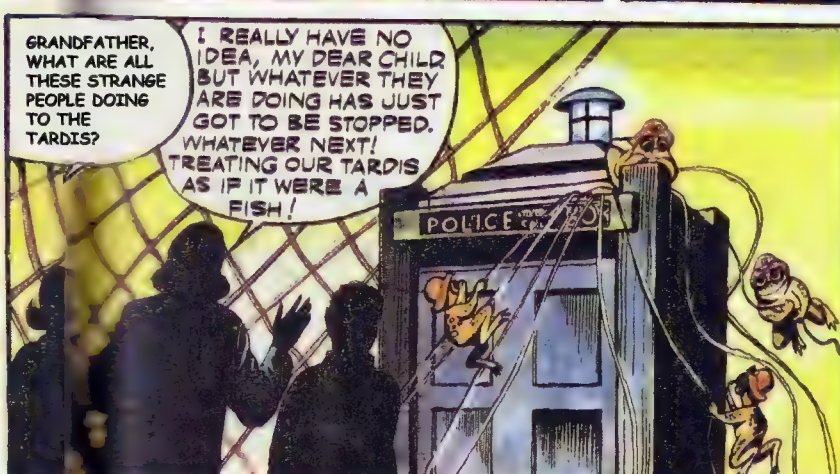
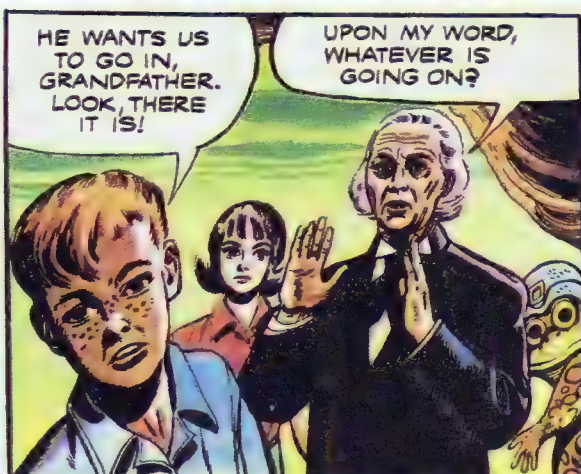
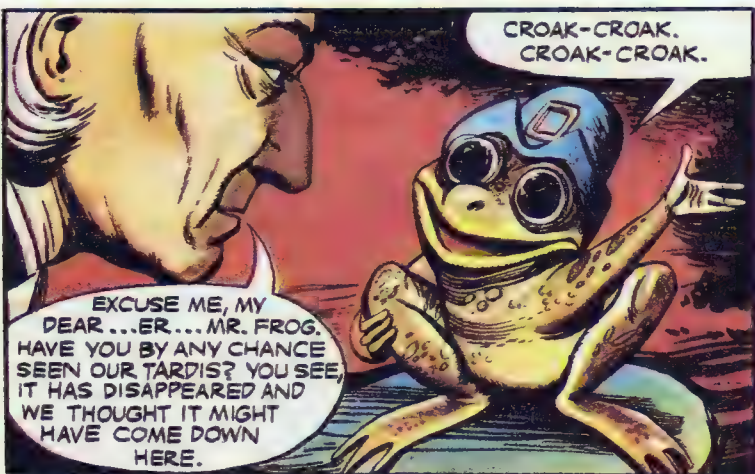
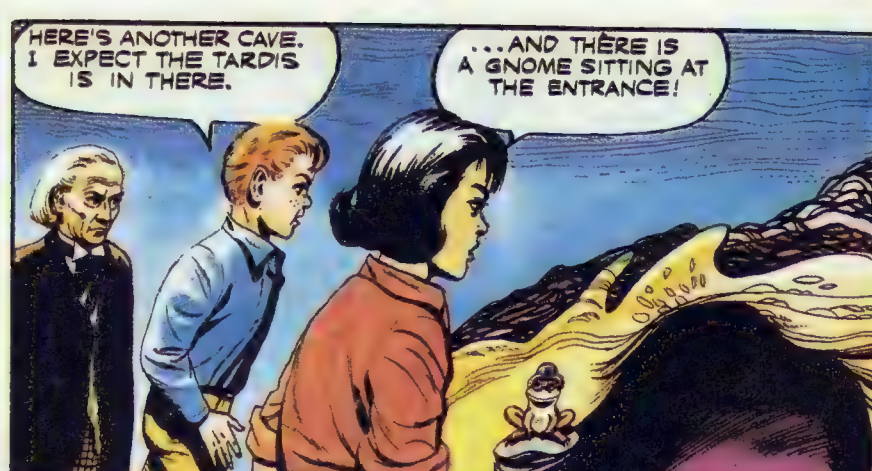
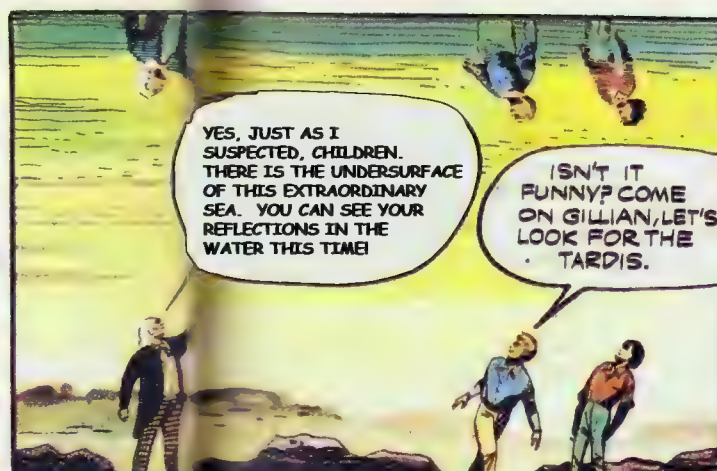
DOCTOR WHO

THE TARDIS carrying Dr. Who and his grandchildren, John and Gillian, has landed on a strange and very barren looking planet...



DOCTOR WHO

DR. Who and the children land on a strange barren planet. In their search for the Tardis, which disappeared into the ground, they are swimming through an underground sea, when suddenly they fall...



DOCTOR WHO

DR. WHO and the children have found the Tardis on the bed of an underground sea. The strange frog people have asked their help in using the light of the Tardis to catch a killer shark. Everything is ready as the shark dives...

NOW! DROP THE NETS! THAT'S RIGHT!

BE CAREFUL! LOOK AT THOSE HORRIBLE TEETH!

HE WON'T GIVE ANY MORE TROUBLE.

NO, HE IS DEAD. THESE SHARKS CANNOT LIVE OUT OF WATER. NOW THE FROG PEOPLE CAN HAVE HIM FOR DINNER, FOR A CHANGE.

THEN THE FROG PEOPLE DID A DANCE OF JOY.

WELL I NEVER! I HAVE SEEN SOME STRANGE DANCES IN MY TIME...THE TWIST AND NOW...THE FROG-HOP! VERY ODD. VERY ODD INDEED!

OH, IT'S FUN, GRANDFATHER.

CROAK-CROAK... THANK YOU. THANK YOU. CROAK-CROAK. PLEASE TAKE A RIDE ON OUR SPECIAL STEED. CROAK-CROAK. HE IS FINE TO RIDE. COME WITH ME...

MAY WE, GRANDFATHER?

GOODO! SUPER!

WELL I NEVER! A TAME SEA-HORSE. MIND HOW YOU GO... AND REMEMBER, NOT TOO FAR.

GEE-UP, SEA-HORSE! AWAY WE GO!

BUT, IN HIS EXCITEMENT, THE SEA-HORSE DASHES AWAY WITH THE CHILDREN...

HE'S OUT OF CONTROL! I CAN'T STOP HIM!

HELP, JOHN! I'M FALLING OFF!

OH DEAR! WE'RE LOST NOW.

THAT LOOKS LIKE AN ENTRANCE TO A CAVE. LET'S TRY IT.

OH DEAR, THAT SEA-HORSE OF YOURS HAS RUN AWAY WITH THE CHILDREN. QUICKLY, WE MUST GO AND LOOK FOR THEM BEFORE THEY GET INTO ANY DANGER. HURRY!

BUT IT IS NOT A CAVE THAT JOHN HAS SEEN...

HELP, I'M TRAPPED! KEEP AWAY, GILLIAN, THIS IS A SEA-CREATURE, NOT A CAVE!

WHAT AM I GOING TO DO? WHERE IS GRANDFATHER?

AT THAT MOMENT...

OH, GRANDFATHER THANK GOODNESS YOU'VE ARRIVED! QUICKLY, HELP JOHN.

STAY QUITE STILL, CHILDREN. DO NOT WORRY. I THINK I HAVE AN ANSWER TO THIS.

BUT, WHEN THEY ARRIVE...

LOOK, THE TARDIS HAS DISAPPEARED AGAIN!

WHEREVER CAN IT BE THIS TIME?

YES, HERE WE ARE. THE VERY THING.

WHATEVER ARE YOU UP TO NOW?

ALL RIGHT, GRANDFATHER, I THINK I CAN GET FREE NOW! YES, THAT'S IT!

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, JOHN? THANK GOODNESS GRANDFATHER TURNED UP AT THAT MOMENT!

YES, I'M FINE. BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO, GRANDFATHER?

WELL, MY CHILDREN, I GUESSED THAT...HE-HE...SEA-CREATURES WOULD NOT LIKE HAVING THEIR FEET TICKLED ANY MORE THAN WE DO...HE-HE! BUT NOW WE MUST GO BACK TO THE TARDIS.

DOCTOR WHO

AFTER adventures on the bed of an underground sea with the strange frog people, Dr. Who and his grandchildren returned to the spot where they had left the Tardis, only to find it had disappeared...

I KNOW THIS WAS THE SPOT WHERE WE LEFT THE TARDIS!

THESE NICE FROG PEOPLE WOULDN'T TAKE IT!

THEN IT MUST BE SOMEWHERE! WE MUST SEARCH, IT CANNOT BE FAR AWAY! LET US SPREAD OUT AND SCAN THE SEA-BED!

THAT'S RIGHT EVERYONE! LOOK VERY CAREFULLY FOR ANY CLUES! SHOUT IF YOU SEE ANYTHING!

CROAK-CROAK!

GRANDFATHER, HELP! I'M FALLING!

GRANDFATHER, QUICKLY! THE SAND IS GIVING WAY UNDER ME! I'M GOING DOWN!

QUICKLY, JOHN, THROW THAT ROPE OVER HERE! BE CAREFUL NOW, DON'T GO TOO CLOSE!

WE'RE COMING, GILLIAN! WE'RE COMING! OOPS! OH, I'VE MISSED!

BUT JOHN WAS NOT IN TIME...

OH, GRANDFATHER, GRANDFATHER! GILLIAN'S GONE! PLEASE, PLEASE DO SOMETHING! QUICKLY!

DO NOT PANIC, MY DEAR BOY! WE SHALL GET GILLIAN BACK SAFE AND SOUND! SHE MUST HAVE FALLEN THROUGH INTO ANOTHER CAVE SOMEWHERE! LET'S ASK THE FROG PEOPLE!

CROAK... STEPS HERE... CROAK... CAVERN UNDER... CROAK... YOU GO TO SEE? CROAK!

COME ALONG, JOHN! I AM CERTAIN THIS MUST BE WHERE GILLIAN IS! HURRY!

OH, I DO HOPE SO!

THEY ARE GREETED BY AN AMAZING SIGHT...

GOOD GRACIOUS ME! WHAT HAVE WE HERE, INDEED?

THAT'S THE TARDIS ALL RIGHT, GRANDFATHER, BUT WHERE'S GILLIAN?

ANCIENT MARINER'S HOUSE PLEASE KNOCK

HERE I AM! A BIT SHAKEN, BUT SAFE!

ARE YOU SURE YOU ARE ALL RIGHT, MY DEAR?

THANK GOODNESS YOU'RE OKAY! I WAS SO WORRIED WHEN YOU DISAPPEARED!

BUT WHO IS THIS... ER... SEAFARING GENTLEMEN?

THIS IS THE ANCIENT MARINER! HE HAS BEEN HELPING ME UP AFTER MY FALL!

I AM MOST OBLIGED TO YOU FOR HELPING GILLIAN, MR... ER... MARINER, BUT MAY I ASK WHAT YOU ARE DOING WITH OUR TARDIS?

THERE WAS A FALL OF SAND AND THE HOUSE DISAPPEARED! I THOUGHT AT LAST A DILIGENT OLD SAILOR WAS BEING REWARDED, YOU SEE I WAS SHIPWRECKED AND WOKE UP IN THIS PLACE YEARS AGO! I HAVE HAD NOWHERE TO LIVE DOWN HERE, THEN SUDDENLY YOUR HOUSE ARRIVED! BUT I COULDN'T GET IN!

EVERYBODY READY?

RATHER!

PHIEW! WHAT AN ADVENTURE THAT WAS!

WELL I AM AFRAID WE CANNOT LEAVE IT WITH YOU, MR. MARINER! IT IS A VERY SPECIAL SORT OF HOUSE YOU SEE AND WE NEED IT FOR OUR TRAVELS! HOWEVER, MY GRANDCHILDREN AND I WITH THE HELP OF THESE GOOD PEOPLE WILL BUILD YOU A HOUSE BEFORE WE LEAVE!

YES, LET'S!

AND IN NO TIME AT ALL...

THERE YOU ARE, MY GOOD MR... ER... MARINER, A HOUSE AT LAST! A FITTING HOUSE FOR AN ANCIENT MARINER TO LIVE IN EVEN IF I DID... ER... HM... DESIGN IT MYSELF!

ANCIENT MARINER'S HOUSE PLEASE KNOCK

THANK YOU VERY MUCH, DR. WHO! THE OLD MARINER WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER THE KIND PEOPLE WHO HELPED HIM ON THE SEA-BED!

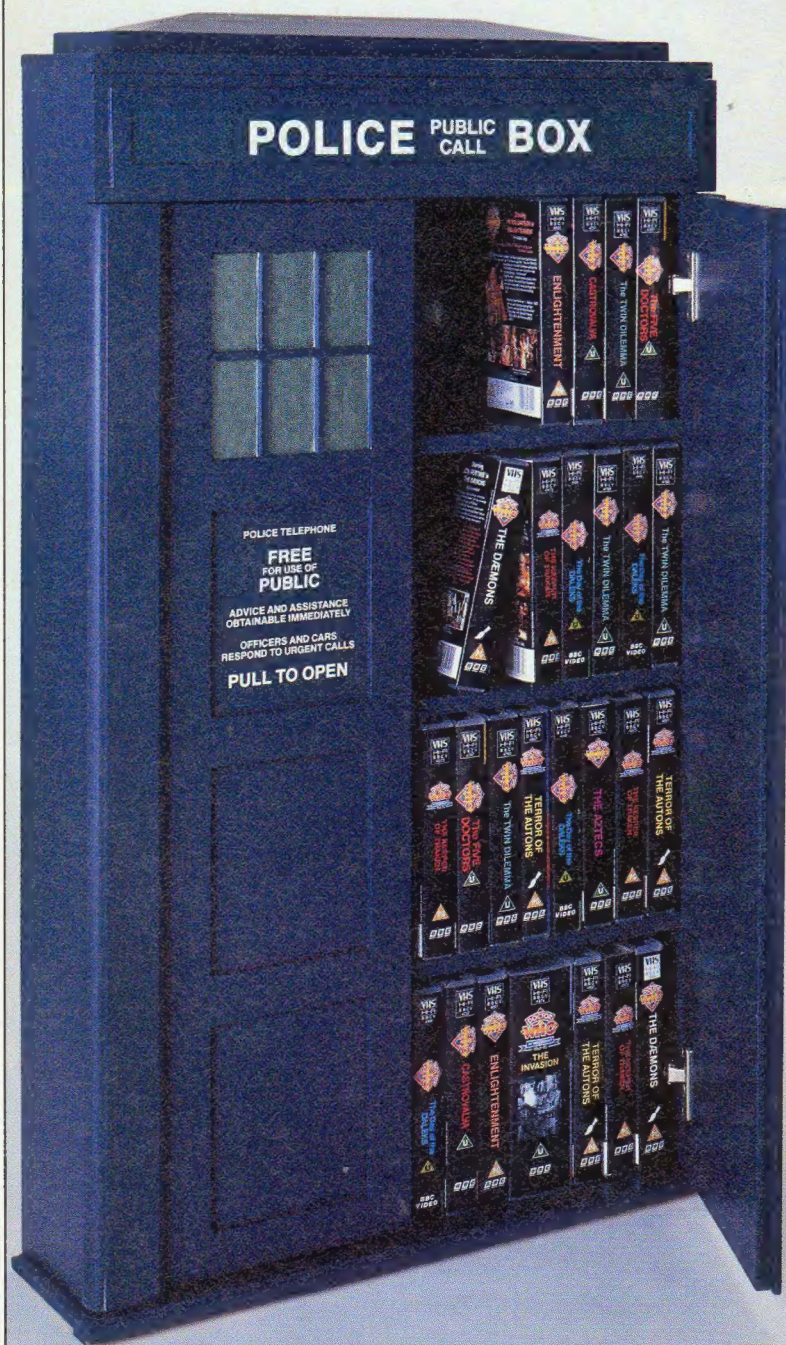
WELL... VERY PLEASANT MEETING YOU, MR. MARINER! NOW I AM AFRAID WE MUST BE OFF!

A SAFE JOURNEY TO YOU ALL AND NO SHIPWRECKS!

GOODBYE, MR. FROG!

CROAK-CROAK!

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SHAPES AND SIZES

Doctor Who Classic Comics – a breath of fresh air. I have thoroughly enjoyed the first eight issues and applaud your efforts, especially the colouring of early (and hopefully later) black-and-white strips. I would take issue however with one item – I would suggest that a large proportion of DWCC readers are not DWM readers. Not all of us require the weightier material DWM offers, some of us may even find it tedious. Doctor Who fans come in all shades, shapes and sizes. There are those who enjoy Doctor Who because it's escapism and entertaining whilst at the other end of the spectrum there are those who have memorised every script, cross-checked every fact and even know how many switches there are on the TARDIS console. The wonderful thing is that there is room for us all, and therefore a market for both magazines, so please do not alienate the lightweight fans.

I accept the agonising and ultimately honourable decision for not re-printing the first seventeen episodes of *The Daleks* in DWCC. I am sure there are many of us who would be prepared to pay a cover price of around £5 for a DWCC special containing only the first seventeen episodes. Alternatively you could replace the pull-out posters with a four-part series of pull-out supplements. Tracking down Doctor Who Magazine back issues (some of which have now been out of print for two years) is not practical – people don't tend to part with them!

Chris Dawe,
Christchurch,
Dorset

Maybe, but just maybe, when we've come to the end of the run of The Daleks, we will go back and reprint those ones from DWM.

How many people would appreciate that? Let us know.

CELEBRATED STRIP

I thoroughly enjoyed Issue 8, especially the *Frame Count* and accompanying article on the *The Daleks TV Century 21* strips – it's a shame you never listed the Richard Jennings strips in *The Dalek Book* or *The Dalek World* annual-style publications, since I feel these belong in the series. Are you going to follow this up with a full listing of the back-up strips from DWW and DWM?

I'm glad you secured the rights to the comic strip adaptation of *Dr. Who and the Daleks*. This must surely be the most celebrated story of all time, since it has appeared on TV, in the cinema, in a book and a comic strip.

Perhaps you give a full listing of all the monsters, foes and friends from the TV series which have appeared with the Doctor in comic strip form, with an accompanying sub-index of the titles of the publication and the issue numbers. The must be a whole wealth of them!



Finally, thanks for the poster of the stunning Lalla Ward, my favourite companion. There simply aren't enough portraits of her around!

Neil Hunter,
Vicars Cross,
Chester

P.S. Where did *Beware the Trods* come from?

The memo from the Doctor's grandson was actually the product of the fertile imagination of comics historian John Ainsworth!

CLASSIC COMICS II?

I imagine most of your readers are Who fans first and comic fans second. With me it's the other way round, so I'd like to say a word in favour of the most recent strips. I stopped buying Doctor Who Magazine (sorry) because I found I was only reading the strip and couldn't justify the expense. I appreciate it's unrealistic to expect you to reprint stories from recent years, but perhaps you could make use of the centre spread and posters or modern material. I'm sure some of Dave Gibbons' or John Ridgway's panels blown up to double page or poster size would look great on the wall. Go on. Please.

Next suggestion: let's have Classic Comics II. All those teasers for the likes of *The Persuaders*, *UFO*, *Hawaii Five-0* and *Captain Scarlet* at the start of some of the Who strips are too much to bear. I want to see them! I know getting all the various permissions would be a nightmare, but what a nostalgic romp it would be.

Lastly, how about Classic Cards? Trading cards, or bubblegum cards as we used to call them seem to be big again, so how about Marvel producing a series of featuring classic Who comic strip panels from down the years. What a Thirtieth Anniversary collectable that would be!

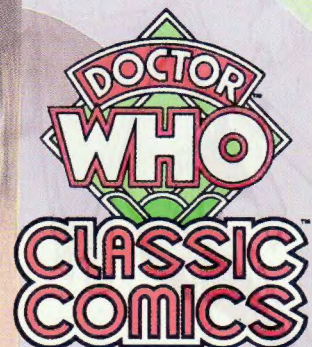
While you're working on all those brilliant ideas (ego, moi?), just keeping doing what you're doing. DWCC is one of the few comics I look forward to.

Martin Feekins,
Stretton,
Staffordshire

No immediate promises on the Trading Cards idea, but we're very keen to do a set. Keep watching these pages for news...

IN NEXT ISSUE'S

The Tides of Time concludes as the Fifth Doctor and Sir Justin face the wrath of Melanicus. Meanwhile the Second Doctor strikes back against the Daleks after their attack on the Trods!



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